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The final lumberjack event broke the tie between Scheer and Isaacson. After three rounds of log rolling in the water, Scheer took the win and the competition. Here is Scheer still standing on the log and looking down at Isaacson in triumph. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.

Squirrels out for summer

nasa hosts another successful Squirrelfest

By JAYME BAHL
Staff Writer

Tomah's Winnebago Park, located at 1020 Brandon Street, was a scurry of squirrels last Saturday, July 6th, 2024. Fortunately, these squirrels were the awesome nasa (North American Squirrel Association)

volunteers and supporters, not the fluffy tailed woodland creatures that eat the birdfeed out of your feeders.

nasa's 4th annual Squirrelfest was an all day, 8-hour event that began at 10 a.m. and ended at 6 p.m. The Herald uses the term "ended" lightly, as both children and adults were very hesitant to leave all the fun behind.

'SQUIRRELS' cont. pg. 14

CASA's Gordon issues Community Call to Action: Children in need of representation



CASA for Kids Director, Anne Gordon, oversees the counties of Monroe, La Crosse, and Vernon. Anne has lived through a childhood of abuse, only to lose her first child at age 2 and a half. Through the hellish nightmare of her youth, Gordon stored the kindness that was shown, and now uses it to fuel her quest for 100 percent child representation in the courts. Contributed photo.

A story of stored kindness fueling a stand against evil

By BENNY MAILMAN
Editor

CASA for Kids is a local non-profit organization serving Monroe, La Crosse, and Vernon counties. CASA is an acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASA for Kids vision centers around the belief that all children have an absolute right to be safe and have their voices heard, especially as it pertains to their own lives and the possible direction it could take. CASA for Kids specifically advocates for children's best interests in child abuse cases, reporting directly to the judge, as the most informed entity on what may be the best course of

“Trust me when I say, I know how that child is feeling and what they are going through.” – Anne Gordon

action for the child.

It used to be that in open child abuse cases, children did not have a voice in what their outcome could be. They were not even able to share their thoughts on what they were struggling with, afraid of, or even what they were hoping for, or felt was best for themselves.

As well, there were no extra resources or support allocated for them. CASA for Kids creates a very accurate and effective report for the judge that is shared with all parties in court. But CASA shares their information and observations of the children directly with the judge. This provides the judge with an

additional perspective on things that the child is or may be needing, or wanting, or what CASA believes is in the best interest of the child. CASA makes sure that everything is very transparent to the judge.

Anne Gordon, Director of CASA for Kids, which covers the counties of Monroe, La Crosse, and Vernon, sat down with the Herald and discussed where CASA is currently, as well as what their goals are for the future. Also discussed were what life events may have led Gordon down the road of advocating for

'CASA' cont. pg. 6



On Wednesday night, the Sparta Lions Club presented a check for \$50,000, for the soon-to-be-open Chatty Kathy's Playground, at Memorial Park, in Sparta. From left to right we have Sparta Lions: Patty Overturf, April Anderson, Lori Einer, Playground Committee Co-Chair Diane Huber (holding giant check), Corrine Johnson, Playground Committee Co-Chair Brian Overturf (center, holding giant check), President Chad Johnson, Mayor Kevin Riley (holding giant check) Jessica Sosso, MD from Mayo Clinic Health System and Director of Sparta Parks and Recreation, Brad Gilbertson. Herald photo by Benny Mailman.

Sparta Lions Club delivers large check to City of Sparta

Mayor thanks Lions Club, remembers Mathweg

By BENNY MAILMAN
Editor

On Wednesday, July 10th, 2024, a bit of gold was seated in the back row of the Sparta

City Council meeting, at City Hall. Dressed in their patented gold vests and shirts were Sparta Lions Club members, and they had a bit of gold to hand over to the City of Sparta, for their soon-to-be-operational all-abilities playground, at Memorial Park, in Sparta. Representing the Lions were Lions

President - Chad Johnson, Playground Committee Co-Chair - Brian Overturf, Patty Overturf, April Anderson, Lori Einer, Corrine Johnson, and Playground Committee Co-Chair - Diane Huber. Also in attendance was Jessica

'SPARTA LIONS' cont. pg. 8

County Board to see resolution for consolidated building plans

By KYLE EVANS
Staff Writer

At the Wednesday July 10th, 2024, Monroe County Property and maintenance meeting, the committee reviewed and approved a resolution, authorizing the completion of space planning for a consolidated government building. The costs is \$50,000 to get the space needs assessment. According to the resolution, the \$50,000 will come from the general fund.

On June 22nd, 2023, the Monroe County Board had held a special meeting to discuss the consolidation of buildings. The board had voted unanimously to recommend the consolidation of offices, with a new building to be located at the Administrative Center Block, in downtown. They then proceeded to explore costs. On August 30th, 2023, the full board voted unanimously again, 15-0, to adopt and approve said resolution.

On November 29th, 2023,

the county board approved a budget adjustment, with a 13-0 vote, for \$18,500. The amount was for a facilities condition assessment. Kraus-Anderson completed the facilities condition assessment in late 2023. They then presented the assessment to the full board, at the March full board meeting.

The feasibility assessment showed that the county will have around \$13.2 million in maintenance repairs, over the next 10 years. The feasibility assessment looked at the administrative building, Community Services Building (ADRC), Executive building, the UW- Extension building, and the old courthouse. \$5 million of the \$13.2 million will have to be done regardless, as the county cannot eliminate the historical courthouse building.

Kraus-Anderson estimated that a rough square footage space need of 43,000 square feet would be needed, if the county consolidated the four buildings into one new

building and used more space in the old courthouse. Which, based on their assessment, by the square foot price of commercial office buildings, it would be \$26 million for a new building, not including site work, parking, and all the extra that come along with the build.

With the resolution passing on Wednesday, July 10th, it will now reach the county board at this month's full county board meeting, slated for Tuesday, July 23rd.

"This does not mean we are building a building," said Mary Cook. She added, "This only gets us more clear numbers, so that we can actually decide what we're going to do."

County Board member, Zach Zebell, said, "The professional services will only increase in cost if we wait on developing the space. This resolution gives us the opportunity to do more homework and get clearer

'COUNTY BOARD' cont. pg. 7

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Three Bangor Area Veterans honored with Quilts of Valor

As part of the Bangor American Legion Post 40 Independence Day celebration, on July 4th, the Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOVF) bestowed the prestigious quilts to three combat veterans, from the Bangor area. Quilts of Valor is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing comfort and healing to service members and veterans through the gift

of handmade quilts. Founded on the inspiration of a dream, the organization operates through a network of volunteers, who create and distribute quilts to recipients. The foundation's mission is to cover service members touched by war with a comforting and healing quilt. Over 20 years ago, the foundation's founder, Catherine Roberts,

dreamt of a young soldier surrounded by the demons of war, hunched over in despair, in the middle of the night. The dream was very real to her, as her son was serving in Iraq at the time. Her vision was to surround the service member with a comforting quilt. And so, it began with the foundation with the first Quilt of Valor (QOV), presented to

an injured soldier at Walter Reed Medical Center. Since that time, the foundation has grown internationally with organizations in local areas across the globe. Now in their 20th year, the foundation has sewn and presented almost 360,000 quilts to military service members.

The Quilts of Valor recipients were as follows:

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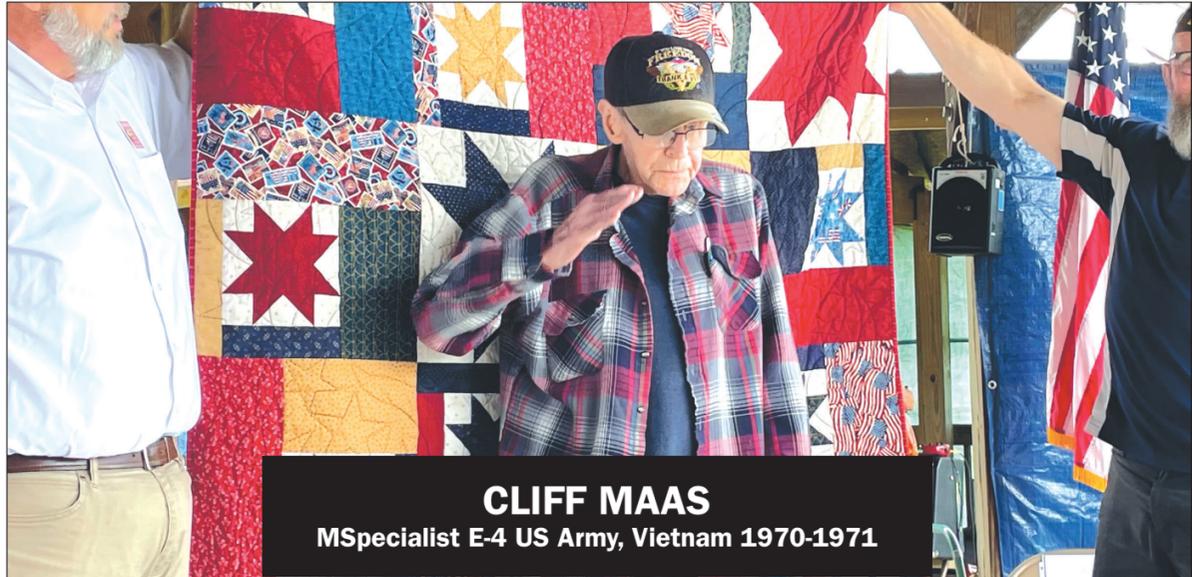
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THINGS TO SEE & DO

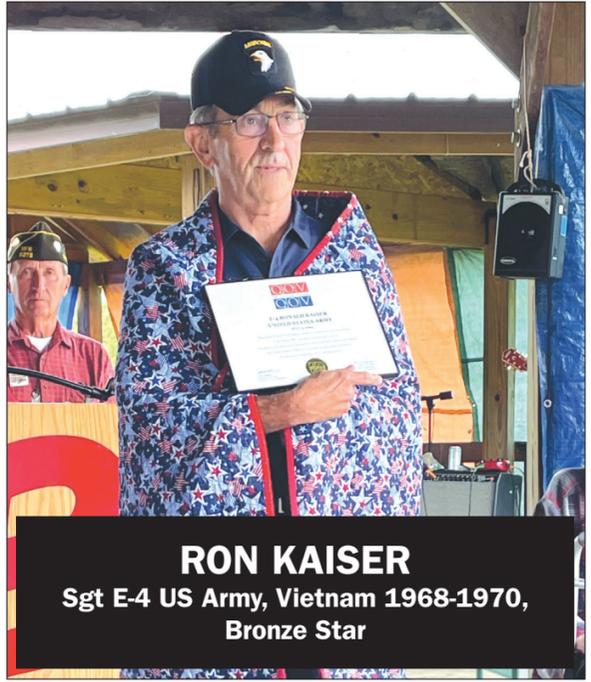
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Area students named to Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

The following individuals from your area have been named to the Dean's List, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, for the Spring 2024 semester. UWM is the second largest university in the State of Wisconsin, with more than 22,900 undergraduate and graduate students.

& Composition Science Undergraduate
Saturn Portale, Letters & Science Undergraduate

MEETINGS
■ Tomah Public Library Board of Trustees will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. in the council chambers on the second floor of City Hall at 819 Superior Avenue., Tomah.

SPARTA
Caleb Lollis, School of the Arts-Undergraduate.
TOMAH
Olivia Czarniecki, English



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Monroe County National Night Out seeks non-profits, safety groups

Area law enforcement and safety officials are inviting not-for-profit organizations and safety groups to take part in this year's Monroe County National Night Out, scheduled Tuesday, August 6th, at Tomah Recreation Park.

Several EMS organizations and not-for-profit groups have already been invited to participate during the event. Other organizations interested in taking part should contact Tomah police officer, Melanie Marshall, at (608)374-7414 or mmmarshall@tomahwi.gov

Officials say all booth displays must have an interactive or child friendly activity. Displays should also relate to safety or health. The local National Night Out will resume the popular 'superhero' theme for this year's event.

National Night Out was introduced in 1984 by the

National Association of Town Watch (NATW) - a nonprofit, crime prevention organization that works in cooperation with thousands of crimes watch groups and law enforcement agencies throughout the country. The program was the brainchild of NATW Executive Director, Matt A. Peskin, who felt that a high profile, high-impact type of crime prevention event was needed — nationally.

The event is held across the country and designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support and participation in local anti-crime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals, letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

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Thank You!

The Kiwanis Club of Sparta would like to thank the following organizations who sponsored our 24th Annual Sparta Kiwanis Radio Day held on April 27th. These sponsors help fund the numerous youth programs in Sparta, Wisconsin, and the World. Over \$6,500 was raised. 100% will go directly to these worthy causes. Thank you!

We especially want to thank Suzanne Hoffman and her staff at Sparta's ESPN 1290AM and 102.1FM stations for their radio time and expertise.

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 - Tricor Insurance
 - Wayside Tavern

Health Matters by April Anderson
Monroe County Health & Well-Being/FoodWise Educator

Food safety during power outages

There are a variety of things you can do to be prepared for a power outage. Having appliance thermometers already running will help you closely monitor the status of your fridge and freezer. It's also a good idea to have a cooler or two, as well as ice, frozen gel packs, dry ice or block ice to maintain a safe temperature in the cooler. Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed. The refrigerator will hold a safe temperature for about four hours. Your freezer, if packed full, will hold food at a safe temperature for about 48 hours with no power — at half full, the time decreases to 24 hours. Food is safe to refreeze if it still has ice crystals or if the freezer did not rise above 40 °F. You can improve the chances that food will remain safe by keeping the doors closed.

Once the power is back on, check the temperature inside your refrigerator and freezer by looking at the thermometer. If the temperature is still 40°F or below for the refrigerator and 0°F or below for the freezer, your food should be fine. Never taste food to determine its safety.

The following foods are safe if held above 40°F for more than two hours: hard cheeses, grated Parmesan cheese, butter or margarine, opened fruit juices, jelly, relish, taco sauce, mustard, ketchup, olives, pickles, and Worcestershire, soy, barbecue and Hoisin sauces, opened vinegar-based dressing, bread products, breakfast breads, fruit pies, fresh mushrooms, herbs, spices, uncut raw vegetables and fruit.

The following foods should be thrown out: meat, poultry

or seafood products; soft cheeses and shredded cheeses; milk, cream, yogurt, and other dairy products; opened baby formula; eggs and egg products; dough, cooked pasta; cooked or cut produce. Resource: https://www.fightbac.org/food-safety-during-power-outages/

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Winners at Duplicate Bridge on Tuesday, July 2, were:
First place - Ken Kuhn and Maila Kuhn. Second place - Amy Bernath and Bev Wendorf. Third place - Lowell Peterson and Mary Jo Peterson.

This group meets regularly each Tuesday afternoon at 12:30 p.m. in the Hospitality House of St. John's Episcopal Church.

Interested participants are welcome. Partnerships can be arranged. Contact Bev Wendorf at 269-6405 or 487-9299.

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Letters to the Editor



What is Tammy Baldwin Hiding From?

Dear Editor:

Joe Biden had a miserable debate a week or so ago and decided that he would return to Wisconsin for a rally last Friday, but Tammy Baldwin was nowhere to be found. Why is she distancing herself from the president? She claimed the Biden administration is "One of the most successful administrations in generations," but won't be seen with Biden. Why is that? She has voted for Biden's disastrous policies 95.6% of the time and now has turned her back on him.

Baldwin is also dodging debating Eric Hovde, who has called for three debates, as is common in most election cycles. What is Tammy hiding? Why won't she take the stage and defend her voting record? The only debate she has agreed to is on October 18th, after many Wisconsinites have already voted.

What has she done in her 25 years in Washington? Senator Baldwin has passed 7 bills, 2 of which were to rename Post Offices. The Center for Effective Lawmaking ranked Baldwin 44th out of 48 Senate Democrats in terms of effectiveness, in the 117th Congress, making her the lowest-ranked Democrat up for reelection this cycle.

We need a change!!! We must retire "do nothing" Tammy and elect Eric Hovde as our next U.S. Senator.

Doug Rogalla
Kendall

Constitutional Amendments on August Ballot

Dear Editor:

Although there may not be many primary election contests on the August 13th ballot, there will be two State of Wisconsin Referendum Questions for your careful consideration and vote. Both questions concern Constitutional Amendments that have evolved out of the pandemic-related federal funds that have come to Wisconsin. They each ask if the legislature should have a role in spending federal funding received by Wisconsin.

Beginning in 1848, when Wisconsin was a brand-new state, the legislature controlled "the power of the purse" up until a law was enacted in 1931, during the Great Depression, which gave more authority to the Executive Branch. This is not a partisan issue, but rather an issue for equal economic opportunity, for citizens from all over the state. The Governor is but one person, while the Legislative Branch includes 33 Senators and 99 Representatives, who all should represent their constituents.

To amend the Wisconsin Constitution, both legislative chambers must pass an identical resolution, in consecutive two-year sessions. Then it must be presented to the voters in a referendum vote, which must pass by majority.

Question #1 reads: "Delegation of appropriation power. Shall section 35(1) of Article IV of the Constitution be created to provide that the legislature may not delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated?"

Question #2 reads "Allocation of federal moneys" Shall section 35(2) of Article IV of the Constitution be created to prohibit the governor from allocating any federal moneys the governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule?"

State Senator Howard Marklein (R-17th), in a recent Weekly Update, wrote that during the COVID pandemic, billions of federal dollars were sent to Wisconsin. The Governor has spent them whenever and wherever and however he wanted, without input from the Legislature. Senator Marklein stated that the Governor still has a billion dollars of unspent funds that should be used on behalf of the citizens of all Wisconsin. Senator Marklein favors voting "yes" for both questions.

Currently, the regular budget process starts with the governor's proposed budget, which is presented to the Legislature. The Joint Legislative Committee has several hearings in Madison and around the state, for citizen input, and then crafts a legislative budget, which when passed by both chambers, is presented to the governor. The governor has a line-item veto, which can be used before signing the bill into law. This is participation by "We the People" and not just one person in control of millions or billions of dollars.

These Constitutional Amendment questions will be on the August 13th Primary Election Ballot. Please get informed, get involved, and vote! I plan to vote "yes" on both questions and ask you to consider doing the same.

John Christy
Sparta

Van Orden Votes to Restore Integrity in Federal Elections

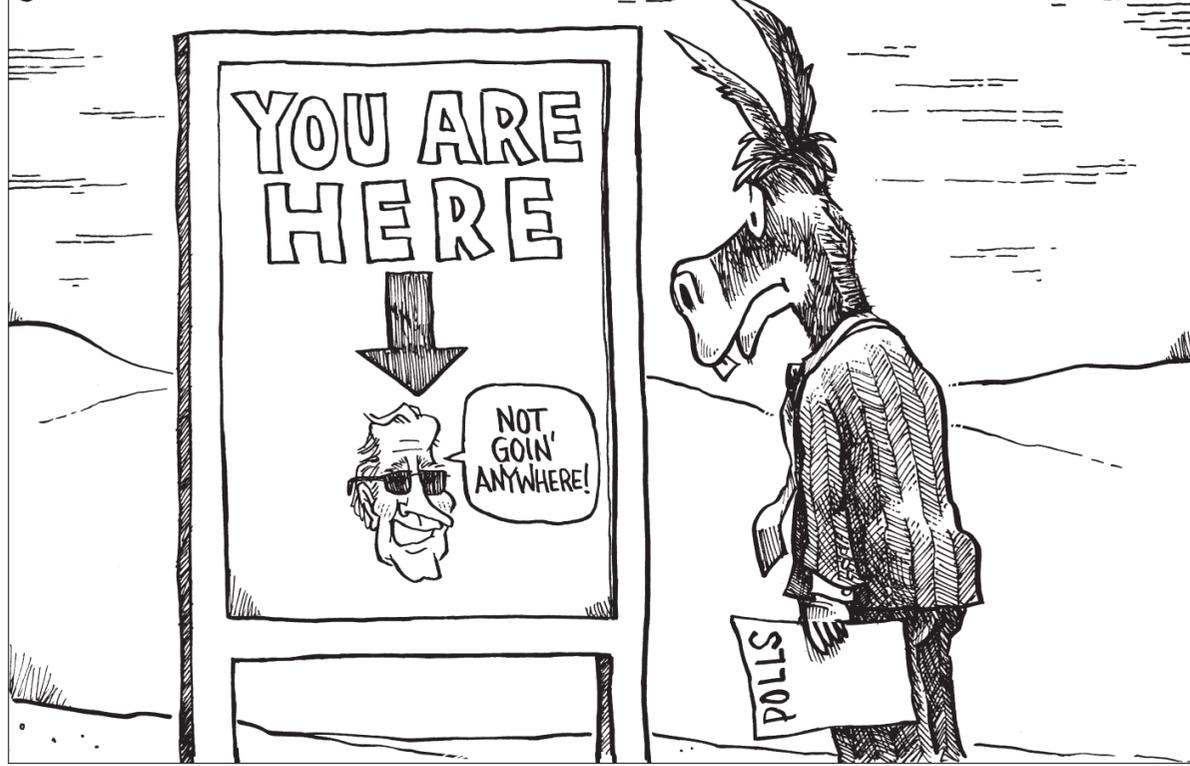
On Wednesday, July 10th, Congressman Derrick Van Orden (WI-03) voted in support of H.R. 8281 – the SAVE Act. The SAVE Act amends the National Voter Registration Act to require states to obtain documentary proof of U.S. citizenship and utilize in-person identification when registering an individual to vote in a federal election and require states

to establish a program to remove non-citizens from their existing voter rolls.

"Eighty percent of Americans believe that only U.S. citizens should be voting in U.S. elections," said Congressman Van Orden. "The SAVE Act will go a long way in ensuring that this is the case."

The SAVE Act passed the House 221-198.

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What happened to Westside park in Sparta?



Kyle's Files
By Kyle Evans

When I was a kid at St. Pat's, here in Sparta, we used to go to Westside Park all the time, and it seemed to be kept

up very well. A few weeks ago, My wife and I stopped there, with our daughters, and I was astonished to see that there was not much of a playground left. The slide was boarded up, and it is not in good shape. In order to get to the play area, we had to navigate through very tall grass. As my heart was sinking from what we were viewing, my daughter

informed me that she had to go to the bathroom. When we reached the restrooms, sure enough, they were all locked up.

It made me think about all the pickup baseball games we played there as kids and all the fun we had. Now it seems anyone would be hard-pressed to have any fun there at all.

This is a call to the City of Sparta, to take a look at keep-

ing up that park, not only the people who live in that area, but for everyone, especially those of us who have such fond memories of a place that brought so much fun and joy into our lives. I know the parks and recreation department is busy, but I think a little work could go a long way in keeping that park not only usable, but a viable area for folks to take their families and create wonderful memories.

Coach, what's the score?



On the Bahl
By Jayme Bahl

When coaching baseball this season, I was asked by a young baller, "Coach, what's the score? Did we tie or did they win?"

I honestly did not have the answer because I was not keeping score. We had 3 fewer players and games are being played with all players on the field, so the score is not accurate. But, alas, another baller chimed in, "It is a tie. They think that they have a few more points, but they weren't calling fair."

I paused and thought for a moment, while both children looked at me. Then I decided and chose to say, "Yeah, it was a tie. Both sides were questioning calls, and that happens, because we all see things dif-

ferently. But we just have to go with it and try our best to be fair, so we leave feeling good about it."

Whew! That satisfied them, and they nodded in agreement.

The question has had me wondering, though, about where accurate calls come from. We do not have an umpire for recreation baseball, so calls are coming from the understandably biased coach. An intermediary would be necessary for an accurate call to be made. This is just a game of kids' baseball, though, and it is not critical we pay an umpire to make the call.

Eventually, there will be value in hiring an umpire, though. Someone who both coaches can rely on, to give them accurate data on how their team is doing. The data will help coaches improve their team and win games. There is value in a high school baseball team winning games and potentially impressing a college scout. The information is useful for each player, too, not just the

whole team. Coaches can help players pinpoint what they need to work on.

But what if the player tells the coach that he is wrong, and the umpire made the wrong call; that he does not need to practice? It is simple, the player will not try to get better and will never truly meet his or her full potential. It is unfortunate.

This concept can apply beyond baseball and hit into our communities. Accurate information makes us all better players and moves our community to where it needs to be. This is why it is so important that we are careful where we get our information from. It is crucial that information comes from the source or from a trusted person invested in accuracy.

A company or organization's own website or social media account is not the place to find accurate and tested information. It is an advertisement and coming from a biased source. That is not to say that all information online

is going to be false, but it will be tilted favorably and from only one person's perspective. The only way to avoid biased news is through an invested news source, like your Monroe County Herald.

Our community is lucky to have a newspaper, to provide accurate, local information. Writers at the Herald take that very seriously. We are held accountable for what we publish. Our job is to talk to the source and peel away the bias to show the truth, so that you do not have to. Where does the truth come from if there is no intermediary?

As you flip through this paper, note the businesses who invest in our local newspaper. Businesses and organizations who care about what is happening in our communities and want to help make our communities the best places they can be. Support them and support your local newspaper, by buying a subscription, so that our communities can be the best places possible.

A long week, so grateful, a beer with Derrick Van Orden



Benny Mailman
Editor

Greetings Super Cool, Awesome, magnificent, and wonderful Humans of Monroe County and beyond! This week has been incredibly busy, and I would like to thank the most awesome people for being such incredible, positive and uplifting influencers on my life. So here it goes: Thank you! All of You.

I am a soul that dives into deep contemplation on why we are here and what it exactly means to be traversing this reality, from the people we meet, to the direction our

journey takes, from quick choices to difficult decisions. But the truth is, exact is not really a point that is meant to be reached within our cerebral investigations. I value the stories. I value our connection to each other.

For two years, I have been interacting with all levels and aspects of the community, from local government, up to state, and even federal levels. I absolutely cherish all of the interviews, smiles, and shared compliments. The truth is, I have continued to be in this position, to write stories for you all, because my heart is complete in doing so. You are the reason I have stayed, and you are the joy my heart swims in.

My brother Joe and I drank a beer in Derrick Van Orden's

office, in Washington D.C. Derrick is a Navy Seal, and having been a Marine, I have the utmost respect for him. He also helped my wife and I out with the difficult task of immigration, which allowed us to go and see her aging parents back in Cambodia, years ahead of when we should have been able to.

I do not agree with every stance that Derrick takes in government, but I know he gets things done for us, in his district, from farmers to veterans. You can't enjoy an omelet and curse the chicken. Derrick was also incredibly kind to all members of my family. He can be rough around the edges, but in today's political climate, rough is a solid attribute.

It is not a secret that the world has some crazy ener-

gy banes flailing about, and I wanted to take time out to say, "Hang in there, we will get through this." But it has to be together. I am astounded at the amazing Monroe County atmosphere, where so many people go out of their way to help each other, when hard times deem intervention.

Well, Greg Evans is waiting for me to finish up. It has been a long week here at Evans Printing, and I want to give a shout out to all of the employees here. You are wonderful, and I have enjoyed working with and around you all.

Have a wonderful everything Monroe County. Remember to be kind, in thought, word and deed. And hey, stay awesome Monroe County. To my Quilting ladies, see you next week.

THANK YOU
FOR READING
THE MONROE
COUNTY HERALD

OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES

DOUGLAS E. CHAMBERS

July 8, 2024

SPARTA-Douglas E. Chambers, 56, of Sparta, passed away on Monday, July 8, 2024 at Mayo Clinic Health Systems, Eau Claire. A Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, July 19, 2024 at Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation, Sparta, with Chaplain Priscilla Hemmersbach officiating. Family and friends are invited for a visitation from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. on Friday,

at the funeral home. Online condolences may be offered at www.schanhoferfh.com

A full obituary will follow in the Monroe County Herald on Monday. Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation, Sparta, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation

CARLYLE C. RANDALL

July 10, 2024

SPARTA-Carlyle C. Randall, 89, of Sparta, died Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at Gundersen Health System, La Crosse. Arrangements will be announced by Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation, Sparta. Online condolences may be offered at www.schanhoferfh.com

Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home and Cremation

PHYLLIS PAMPUCH

July 10, 2024

TOMAH-Phyllis Pampuch, age 86, of Tomah, Wisconsin, passed away Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at the Mayo Hospital in La Crosse, Wisconsin. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Monday, July 15, 2024 11:00 a.m. at the Queen of the Apostles Parish in Tomah. Monsignor Steven Kachel will officiate. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Tomah. Family and friends are invited for visitation on Monday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service with a rosary beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the church. The Torkelson Funeral Home of Tomah is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are available at www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com.

Torkelson Funeral Home

GREGORY JAMES HAMMER

January 3, 1976 — July 9, 2024

TOMAH-Gregory James Hammer, 48, of Tomah, died on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at his home surrounded by his loved ones. He was born on January 3, 1976, to Robert and Cheryl (Johnson) Hammer in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Greg was a member of the Tomah High School graduating class of 1994. After high school he attended the Wisconsin School of Electronics in Madison, Wisconsin and then worked for InTel in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Greg was united in marriage to Amy Ritter in October of 2000. To this union were born two sons; Jagger and Gavin. Greg moved back to Tomah in 2003. He worked numerous jobs, most recently at Century Foods in Sparta. In 2006 he met his life partner, Sam Goodenough.

are probably some of the best people you would meet. He would only introduce people that he knew were at his standard; no room for fakes, liars or cheats. At these times the laughter and joy and loved he emanated was palpable. Greg had one more epic roady in the works- we can look back now and see it. It was to destination unknown- strange for Greg. He told some of us his plans and we couldn't believe it. Another roady? He said he wanted to do this one alone, no one could go. It didn't make sense to us. So Greg had us planning along with him. On Tuesday, Greg started his most epic one yet; his eternal roady. So, to you my friend, Gregory, Greg, Homie, Hammer, Spesh, Bones, Greggie, Greggers, Greg the God 69, Uncle Dangerous; may your roady truly be epic. May you have bright blazing days, sweet starry nights and a perpetually clear windshield. Please swing by whenever you are around. You can pick each of us up as we become ready for our won final roady. We all love you and will miss you until then. See you when we see you. He will be dearly missed by all that knew and loved him.

Greg is survived by his children Jagger and Gavin (Rudy) Hammer; mother Cheryl Hammer; life partner of 18 years Samantha Goodenough; step-sons Cody (Kailyn Schaitel) and Hayden (Alayna) Peters; grandsons Chad and Kyler, brothers Brian (Tiffany) Hammer and their children Addison and Caden, Rob Hammer and his daughters Olivia and Amelia; Aunts and Uncles Steve (Kathy) Johnson and their children Sam and Olivia, Mike Johnson and his children Beth (Bobby), Nick (Chelsea), Josh (Britany), Barb Ewers and her children, Kelly (Bill), Steve (Emily). He is further survived by many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father Robert J. Hammer; Grandparents Kenneth and Dorothy Johnson, Grandma and Grandpa Hammer; and his uncles Nelvin and Gary.

A Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2024, 1:00 P.M., at The Sonnenburg Family Funeral Home, 801 E. Monowau St. Tomah. Kirk Baumbach and Reverend Christian McArthur will officiate. Burial will be at a later date. Family and friends are invited to call for a Visitation at The Sonnenburg Family Funeral Home from 11:00 A.M. until the time of service. Immediately after the service there will be a Celebration of Greg's Life at the Grassman-Sowle-American Legion Post #201, 800 Wisconsin Avenue, Tomah from 2:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. The Sonnenburg Family Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be offered by visiting www.sonnenburgfamilyfh.com.

Sonnenburg Family Funeral Home

New Murals Coming to Sparta

By JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ MORAN
Contributing Writer

In late June, Senator Brad Pfaff made a surprise visit to the Sparta Farmers Market. He was introduced to local artist, Sal D'Agostino, and told an inspiring story about some community members pushing for more art and culture in Sparta, through the creation of a series of murals. Sal began the first mural this week, in an effort at beautifying a popular walking area, under a bridge that is constantly blighted by vandalism and profanity.

Modeling after many successful mural projects in other cities, it has been noted that such artistic efforts often inspire vandals to reconsider. Additional mural projects will be up to the community, in terms of content. Inspired by the story and movement, Senator Pfaff has pledged to help Sparta in any way that he can, to make the mural dreams a reality. Watch the Herald for an upcoming poll, to lodge your opinion, regarding what to paint in other prominent, sometimes blighted, spots.

Sal D'Agostino was approached by the community group, who are pushing for the murals. As a known artist with experience in painting bold, beautiful images, in scales from small to very large, Sal was an immediate frontrunner. One example of his work can be discovered as the photogenic backdrop of the popular Matsumoto Ramen House, where D'Agostino

cleverly worked in Sparta symbology, such as bicycles, into a mountain of ramen. He also took part in the previous mural off, on East Main Street, painted by his high school class, which featured inspiring images of peace and harmony. That mural was removed when structural work was needed on the wall. More of his recent works can be seen at his popular Sparta Farmers Market vendor hut, at Creekside, off of East Main Street, in Sparta.

With permission granted from Parks and Rec Director, Brad Gilbertson, paint donated by Sylvia Goede, and encouragement from some local mural enthusiasts, Sal began the first mural on Wednesday.

The image will highlight key aquatic life, in nearby Beaver Creek. Sal has agreed to do this mural for free, with paint donated. He will need some primer, which has not yet been allocated for the project. It is hoped that, with the potential help of Senator Pfaff, grants can be discovered and applied for.

If the mural group gets funding, they would like to pay Sal D'Agostino for his artistry, as well as cover any expenses and maintenance costs. The mural enthusiasts have noted comments that Sparta's current murals need maintenance, which will also be addressed. Additional mural ideas which have been proposed so far include a Farmers Market theme, gardening theme, Native Ecosystems, Cultural Diversity, and more.

Health Matters

by April Anderson
Monroe County Health & Well-Being/FoodWise Educator



Test Your Dial-Gauge Canner

Many people are busy canning this time of year or are getting ready to. Is your canner ready to be used? It's vital you make sure your pressure canner is in good condition and working properly to ensure that you end up with safely canned products. Dial gauges on pressure canners should be tested every year to ensure that the dials are accurate. Weighted gauges on canners do not need to be tested because they do not go out of calibration. The type of testing unit available at the Monroe County Extension office is used with a limited

selection of dial gauges, primarily Presto brand gauges. If you would like to get your canner lid tested please contact the Extension office at 608-269-8722 to make arrangements. Then you will drop the canner lid off at the back entrance of the Extension office, which is located at 206 S K St. in Sparta, during our regular office hours which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Your canner lid will be tested, typically within a few days, and then you will be contacted when it's ready to be picked up.

MONROE COUNTY HERALD

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Gregory M. Evans, Publisher
Benny Mailman, Editor

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In Memoriam



Thomas J. Hill

7-13-2004

It has been 20 years since Tom passed and he is still sorely missed and fondly remembered by family + friends.

Rest In Peace

Science Made Easy

by Larry Scheckel



QUESTION
Could we drill a hole all the way through the earth?

ANSWER
In theory, one could drill a hole through the Earth, but it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible. The deepest hole ever drilled for research purposes was the Kola Superdeep Borehole, on the Kola Peninsula, in the former Soviet Union, east of Norway. The drillers got down to a tad over 40,000 feet, which is about seven-and-a-half miles. Considering that the Earth is 8,000 miles in diameter, they did not get very far. After the fall of the Soviet Union, the project was abandoned. The Soviet attempt was expensive. Workers drilled for nineteen years, with many drill bits, broken shafts, and secondary holes. They only made it through one-third of the mantle. The drill bits encountered intense heat (356 degrees Fahrenheit) at seven miles down. If they had reached their target of 49,000 feet, the calculated temperature of 570 degrees would make the drill bits useless. The Soviet drillers found hydrogen gas and water trapped in the rocks. The Kola Borehole was surpassed in 2008, by a 40,318 foot oil well in Qatar, and in 2011, by a 40,502 foot offshore oil well, near the island of Sakhalin, off the Russian eastern coast, not too far from Japan. The borehole for the Russian well is nine inches in diameter. The Earth is made up of the crust, which is three to thirty miles thick. That's three miles under the ocean and thirty miles on the continents. The crust makes up about one percent of the volume of the Earth. Then comes the solid hot shell called the mantle, which is 1,800 miles thick. The mantle makes up about 85 percent of the Earth's volume. Deeper down is the core, made of nickel and iron, with an inner solid layer. The core makes up about fifteen percent of our planet. Why drill a hole in the Earth when we already know what's there? Using seismographs and computer simulations, scientists have developed theories about the internal structure of the Earth. The manner in which seismic waves reflect off the interior of the Earth gives scientists many clues as to the internal structure. It may not be necessary to drill through the Earth to build up a fairly detailed understanding of what is below our feet. An intriguing question has often arisen. If you did manage to dig a hole all the way through the Earth, and jumped in, what would happen? If there was no friction, including air resistance, it would take about forty-two minutes to reach the other end of the tunnel. The pull of gravity would make you go faster and faster. Reaching the center of the Earth in about twenty-one minutes, you would be going about 18,000 mph. But then gravity would slow you down. After another twenty-one minutes, with gravity slowing you as you go, you would reach the far side and stop briefly. Unless someone caught you, you'd then head back the way you came and start all over again. In our idealized case, this would continue indefinitely, like a pendulum or a spring, in a process called simple harmonic motion. If there is any kind of resistance, such as touching the side of the tunnel, or air in the tunnel, some energy is lost. You wouldn't quite reach the other end and would go back zinging down into the tunnel. The yo-yoing back and forth would finally leave you stuck in the middle, with a long, hot climb home. It's much like being in a swing, push off once, and you go back and forth, but the swing will finally stop swinging. When I was a boy on the Seneca farm, on Oak Grove Ridge, my brothers and I would discuss digging a hole through the Earth. It came up numerous times, while digging holes for fencing posts. Dad would say, "Dig a little deeper." One of us would respond, "If I dig any deeper, the hole will come out in China." Little did we realize that China is entirely in the Northern Hemisphere. If we had dug deep enough, we would have come out somewhere in the Indian Ocean, not China. Sources: howstuffworks, bbc.com

Send questions and comments to: lscheckel@charter.net.

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CASA

(Continued from Front Page)

“I want to grow CASA to serve all our 100 children that are on our waitlist, and I can’t do that without community support and child advocates.” – Anne Gordon

CASA for Kids Director

Anne Gordon - Executive Director for CASA for Kids, and Brittney Waraxa - Case Manager for CASA for Kids, are supported by a network of volunteers and a board of directors, who share in the same energies of mission, vision, and values — to speak up for children from abuse. One would be hard-pressed to find another director who understands the need to uplift children’s voices in these cases more than CASA’s Executive Director, Anne Gordon.

Gordon understands the children her organization represents because she, herself, lived through that abusive childhood. From her childhood to early adulthood, Anne, as a child, watched as her mother experienced domestic violence, while her father was struggling with substance abuse, in addition to growing up in poverty.

Gordon endured many forms of abuse and was out of her home several times, with short informal stays with relatives. She was a child, in a solo battle against the tyranny

of abuse from the very humans that were supposed to love her and protect her. It was a disheartening and sorrowful situation.

As early as she can remember, her home life was dysfunctional, resulting in foster care placement at the age of four. The spectrum of abuse continued throughout her early life, and by middle school she had begun running away, to escape from the brutal nightmare. When she finally reunited with her biological father, at age 15, he was still struggling with substance abuse, eventually passing away just after Anne turned 18.

Tragic Loss, Strong Soul

At age 19, Anne Gordon became pregnant with her first child, which she lost to a genetic medical condition, at the age of 2 and a half. Throughout all the hardships Anne faced, a thought that had very little reason to stick around, kept making the rounds between Gordon’s heart and her mind — there is kindness left in the world. Anne Gordon harvested all the kindness that was given to her in her lifetime, storing it all in her heart, to use for fuel when the moment was right.

Annes Path, Anne’s Plea

Anne’s path led her to CASA for Kids, where that stored kindness flows out on a minute-by-minute basis, with every child helped or help is facilitated. Shortly after arriving at CASA for Kids, Anne began her journey, moving from program coordinator to program director, with the support of her predecessor, Jessie Fortuna, and former colleague, Tom Rhorer, who is now an active board member. “I want to use all my childhood experiences to shape my compassion, drive, and purpose in life,” Gordon stated. “I want to grow CASA to serve all our 100 children that are on our waitlist, and I can’t do that without community support and child advocates. We are working to rebuild the organization to a higher standard of child advocacy, while keeping in mind the challenges families face each day; still prioritizing children’s voices. Trust me when I say, I know how that child is feeling and what they are going through.”

The Advocate Volunteer

Court Appointed Special Advocates are committed community members wanting to do whatever they can to promote and lift up the good in this world. They are interviewed, screened, trained, and swear an oath in court, to “Faithfully protect and promote the best interest of each child they represent.”

Their interactions are monitored, tracked, and supported by CASA staff and they assist in the court reports submitted to the judges. They also attend court hearings and advocate for additional systems of support for these children. They express the children’s needs, wants, deficits, achievements, and their own recommendations, based on their interactions and observations, in a CASA report.

Volunteer advocates see their assigned child on a weekly basis, building a positive presence in the child’s life and gathering information for the court to make the best decision possible. “This is why CASA for Kids is important,” Anne Gordon stated. “This is CASA’s call to action, to the communities in the counties of Monroe, La Crosse, and Vernon.”

If you or anyone you know would like to learn more on becoming a child advocate or show support in other ways,

visit their website at www.casaforkids.org or reach out directly to Anne Gordon, at Agordon@casaforkids.org

From CASA for Kids:
Our Mission
To promote the best interests of children in abuse and neglect cases, by providing court appointed special advocate (CASA) volunteers in care and protection proceedings under Chapter 48 of the Wisconsin State Statutes.
Our Vision
We believe that all children have a right to be safe and have their voices heard.
Our Values
-We value every child’s right to a safe and permanent home.
-We value child-centered advocacy, service, and collaboration.
-We value honesty, integrity, and compassion.
-We value accountability and commitment.

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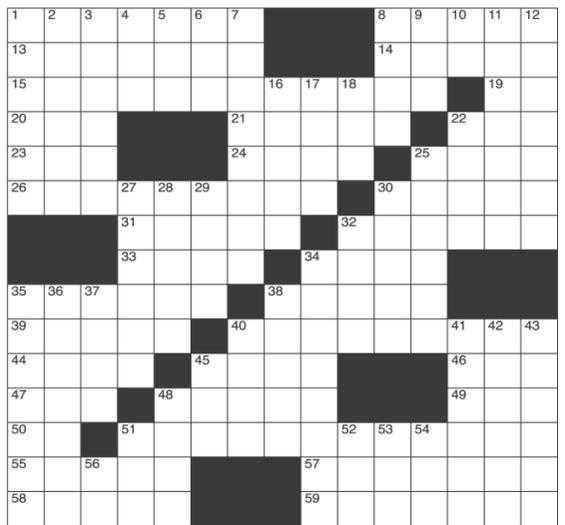
Answers on page 12

	2		6					4	5
							8	2	
			5	2					
	8	9	7						1
			1					7	
7		4	9						
		2							8
	4			6	1				7
				3	6	1			

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Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



Answers on page 12

CLUES ACROSS

- Book size
- Indonesian Island
- “The Sopranos” character
- Plants often found in stews
- Stern
- Atomic #52
- Often seen after a company name
- Silk garments
- Inhibiting hormone (abbr.)
- Type of beer
- Margarine
- Throw lightly
- Explains again
- Raccoon-like animal
- Sneaker parts
- Platforms
- Scored perfectly
- One’s essence
- Strikes with a firm blow
- Makes tractors
- Music term
- Lack of energy
- Vestments
- ___ and feathers
- Total
- Gobbler
- One with Japanese immigrant parents
- Type of braking system (abbr.)
- Home of Rudy Flyer
- Manageable
- Lugged
- Irritated
- Sea eagles
- Warm seasons

CLUES DOWN

- About visual sense
- Part of a horse’s saddle
- In a way, interchanged
- Rocker’s accessory
- Very important person
- It precedes two
- Flavored
- Musical notes
- String instrument (slang)
- Mister
- Fine, light linen fabric
- Absence of bacteria
- Discounts
- Area units
- A description of one’s life
- Gazelles
- Plumbing fixture
- Makes especially happy
- One side of something many-sided
- Frosts
- Defunct monetary unit of Guinea
- Female animal species
- School terms
- Written law
- Unpleasant aroma
- Nuclear weapon
- One who challenges
- Opposite of first
- Able to be utilized
- Less interesting
- Implants
- Canister
- Gestures
- After B
- Romanian monetary unit
- Long-term memory
- Cash machine
- The Volunteer State

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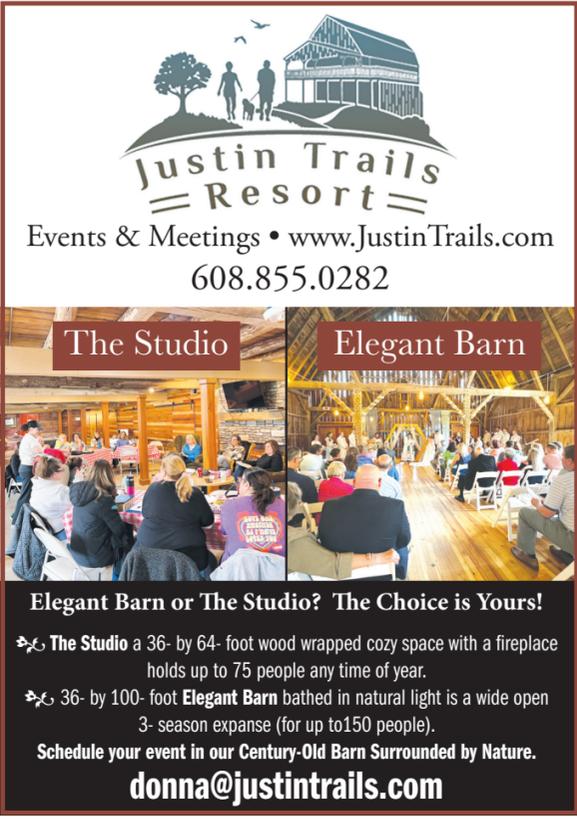
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Monroe County Records
Divorces

Lisa Renee Olson, 54 of Boscobel from Mark Alan Olson, 48 Reedsburg.

Jeffrey Eugene Gnewikow, 59, of Norwalk from Lynn Gnewikow, 48 Houston, with a maiden name of Jones restored.

Mariah Amber Schmit, 25 of Warrens from Christopher John Schmit, 26, of Cashton, with a maiden name of Gander restored.

Olasomi Oyinlola George, 53 of Montgomery, Illinois from Basirat Olawumi George, 45 of Sparta, with a maiden name of Makinde restored.

Brittany Ann Gerke, 33 of Tomah from David Gerke, 30 of Tomah, with a maiden name of Grosshelm restored.

Jamie Jay Meltesen, 50 of Kendall from Jodi Lee Meltesen, 42 of Warrens.

Michael Alan Rizzo, 39 of Camp Douglas from Jenny Marie Rizzo, 43 of Camp Douglas with a maiden name of Jasper restored.

Courtney C. Szuska, 36 of Ohio from Timothy R. Bilderback Szuska, 37 of Ohio with a maiden name of Zellers restored.

Tammy Lynn Anderson, 50 of Sparta from Bradley Jon Anderson, 56 of Sparta.

COUNTY BOARD

(Continued from Front Page)

numbers.”

County Board member, Remy Gomez, said, “Every department and committee has put in a lot of effort already, into this and with previous unanimous votes from the county board. I don’t understand why anyone would be against this.”

If the resolution passes through the county board, the committee will then move forward on space planning, so the committee will have more accurate numbers on what an actual building may cost. The Herald will keep you up to date on the progression of this topic.



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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
MONROE COUNTY
24 PR 64

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Brett Lee Jankowski
DOD: 10-30-2022

A Petition for Formal Administration was filed.

THE COURT FINDS:
The decedent, date of birth 09-10-1969 and date of death 10-30-2022 was domiciled in Monroe County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 21421 Keel Rd. Sparta, WI 54656.

THE COURT ORDERS:

1. The Petition be heard at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 S. Court Street, Sparta, Wisconsin 54656, Room Branch Br. III via Zoom, before Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner Hon. Richard Radcliffe, on 08-26-2024 at 2:15 pm.
2. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 09-30-2024.
3. A claim may be filed at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 S. Court Street, Sparta, Wisconsin 54656, Room Br. III via Zoom.
4. Heirship will be determined at the hearing on petition for final judgment.
5. Publication of this notice is notice to any persons whose names or addresses are unknown. If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call (608) 269-8701 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

BY THE COURT:
06/20/2024
Hon. Richard Radcliffe
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SPARTA LIONS

(Continued from Front Page)

Sosso, MD - from Mayo Clinic Health System, who added to the Lions pot of gold, for the same cause.

As strange as it may seem, the idea to fund and build an all-abilities playground in Sparta, stemmed from the Overturf's visit to Portland, Oregon, to see their son and their grandkids. "We went to a grand opening of an all-abilities playground, and we absolutely thought it was brilliant," Brian Overturf told the Herald. "So, we came back to the club and brought the idea to them. That was four years ago. Everyone was onboard ... then the pandemic hit."

Brian Overturf went on to explain that they had gone to the Parks and Recreation Department, with the idea of either having a new playground entirely or remodeling an existing one. "They [Parks and Recreation Department] said that they had been talking about remodeling the Memorial Park playground, but with the pandemic, it took nearly two years before they committed to doing it. Meanwhile, we had already started raising funds for it."

Overturf then explained that Lion Playground Committee Co-Chair, Diane Huber, went after some grants, in addition to their regular fundraising. "We started raising money and then got into the Kriskindlmarkt, and we were able to raise a lot more money, although it was hard work."

Overturf informed the Herald that money from the project was coming from several sources, including COVID relief funds. "It was really blossoming, and we did not care if our name was on it or not, we were just glad that they were doing it ... we just wanted to see it through, to completion."

In a short conversation with Sparta Parks and Recreation Director, Brad Gilbertson, the Herald learned that the hot rubber that will form the soft base for the playground, will be poured into place this Friday, July 12th. "We will need to have 24-hour surveillance after the pour, to make sure no one interrupts the cooling process," Gilbertson said. "We have some landscaping to get

done afterwards, so we do not have open curbs and stuff. But hopefully we will be opening within the next week to week and a half."

At the check presentation, Gibertson stated, "This whole playground was an entire community event that happened, with multiple service organizations coming together, with the Lions being a very big contributor, to make this possible, here in Sparta."

The Mayor and Mathweg

Mayor Kevin Riley had some remarks before the official presentation of the check. "I was in one of Kathy Mathweg's very first classes, she taught me how to type. I have known her since 1976, when she first came to Sparta. The Lions Club did a great job raising funds."

Mayor Riley was referring to former Sparta teacher, Kathy Mathweg, who recently passed away, at 71 years of age. Mathweg, herself a member of the Lions Club, was a massive contributor to the project, with her estate donating \$200,000 to the all-abilities playground. Mathweg left her estate in the hands of her dear friends, Jamie Adams, Carol Olson, and Julie Jandt. After a short discussion, the three friends decided that they would contribute the money, on behalf of Kathy Mathweg. The playground will be called Chatty Kathy's Playground.

Brian Overturf, during the presentation, remarked, "We are just part of 44 members in our club, and we have been doing this since 1961, starting with a community parade. We raised about \$29,500 but we also received three grants: \$10,000 from the Mayo Health System, \$4,000 from the Gunderson Health System, and \$3,000 from the Green Bay Packers, from their foundation. We also received \$2,000 from the American Legion Post 100, from their Christmas Dinner event, and \$1,500 from the American Legion Post 100 Auxiliary. With that being said, here is a check for \$50,000 for the all-abilities playground."

A round of applause echoed through the room. before photos were taken.

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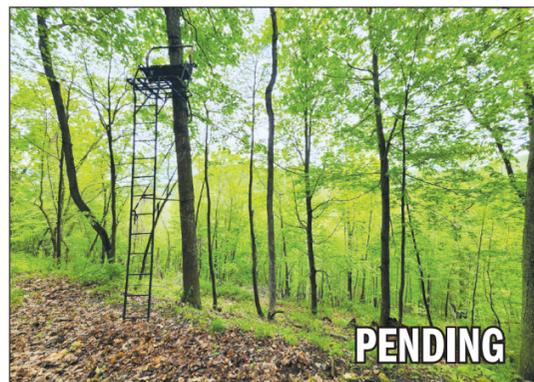


0 NIAGARA AVE NORWALK, WI 54648

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Listing #1878541

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0 MARKET RD. CASHTON, WI 54619

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 Loan after 35% Down-payment: 62-month term/Balloon payment at 62 months Rate: 2.750% APR:
 2.785%, \$200,000 Loan Amount. Monthly payment: \$816.67. Balloon Payment: \$176,990.52.
 Loan after 20% Down-payment: 62-month term/Balloon payment at 62 months Rate: 2.950% APR:
 2.985%, \$200,000 Loan Amount. Monthly payment: \$838.02. Balloon Payment: \$177,690.51
 **Note: the interest rates, APR, terms and payments are based on a \$200,000 conventional loan with a 30-year amortization and 62-month balloon term; no private mortgage insurance; 1-unit single-family condo. Payment displayed is principal and interest only and does not include property taxes, association fees or home-owners insurance. Actual payments will be greater when including property costs.
 Financing with approved credit. Your rate, costs and payment are not guaranteed and could be higher. Get a Loan Estimate before choosing a loan. Contact the Bank for loan options and further information. Rates and terms subject to change. This offer is only available for condo purchase in Sunrise Court, Cashton, WI.

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Sparta Community garden beds installed

Continuing community efforts see strength in numbers



Christy Meyers Litchfield and her family have made community gardening a family affair, making time in their busy days to stop by and help with watering, weeding, and planting. Herald photo by Jennifer Rodriguez Moran.

By **JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ MORAN**
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, June 23rd, 2024, volunteers gathered at the gravel area, near the Oak Street Bridge, across from the established Sparta Community Garden, ready to top the stones and hardened earth with new life. The plants will provide nourishing vegetables for the community. If successful, The Sparta JR Garden Club has expressed interest in making salsa, as well as a ticketed harvest dinner, as a club fundraiser.

All are welcomed and encouraged to visit, water, and pull weeds at the Sparta Community Garden, on both sides of the trail, for some good exercise, gardening time, and service for the community. It has been noted that one always feels better after helping in the garden.

The Garden Club purchased the raised garden beds, which were originally cranberry shipping boxes. These cranberry boxes were discovered for sale, online, for \$25 each, or 5 for \$100, and picked up by club members earlier in the week. The trip was 4 hours in the rain, and quite the adventure. The volunteer family stated, "Hopefully the garden beds will be a success and worth the effort!"

It has been suggested that volunteers reach out directly to cranberry growers, to see if any further boxes might be suitable and available for the community garden. Little Creek Ranch has generously offered to fill up any additional raised beds that are procured.

When heavy rains rendered the original dirt planned for the beds into mud, volunteers, including good samaritan, Deb Page, and The Herald, a plan B was devised and carried out. They grabbed their shovels and set out to the City Yards, to hand shovel compost into the back of Page's truck.

This was heavy work, done with laughter and conversation. Once back at the Community Garden site, Page and The Herald began filling the boxes, eager to get the donated veggies into the earth. Soon, reinforcements came, and Page headed over to The All American Do It Center for the next load of dirt, which she

herself donated to the Sparta Community Garden.

Meanwhile, Goede left to get vermiculite, to help condition and aerate the heavy soil, as the Herald and the new Sparta JR Garden club president passed the time pulling weeds and brainstorming what to do with the veggies, if the garden is successful. Soon after Goede and Page returned, Meyer Litchfield and her children arrived, just in time to get all of the plants in.

The new Sparta JR Garden Club President, Zoey, came with previous Garden Club President, Sylvia Goede, to learn from Goede, and lend a hand. The duo conditioned the soil, planted rows of cabbage, and bushes of tomatoes. Goede recently turned 75, and Zoey is a preteen. Coming from different generations and backgrounds, they share a love of volunteering together, getting out into the gardens and community, and making a difference.

Christy Meyer Litchfield and her volunteer force of five children joined in, to help plant flowers donated by Pine Ridge Greenhouse, into containers, which she bought herself earlier in the week. Meyer Litchfield has recently taken leadership over the Sparta Community Garden. Christy says she began gardening three years ago, and she enjoys the time spent outside with her children, in the garden. She has learned a lot in the past few years and is now sharing that knowledge and experience with the community, through hands-on volunteer work and with visible results.

Plants her family has donated include potatoes, radishes, tomatoes, onions, sunflowers, and more. Christy Meyers Litchfield and Kathleen Abbott have been out there most days, ensuring that the garden is watered and weeded. It is hoped that as time goes on, more hands will join in.

Two food-grade barrels, which are being converted into rain barrels, will soon be ready, to help ease the task of watering. Several trail walkers, who passed by the volunteers on Sunday, expressed interest in the garden and the raised beds, offering to water the veggies, once the rain barrels are in place and watering cans are provided.

Volunteers encouraged these passersby with gifts of veggies for their home gardens, with the hope that they will remember the Community Garden, especially on hot and dry days. Assistant Fire Chief, Robert Arnold, of the Sparta Area Fire Department, based across from the garden, has expressed a willingness to fill the rain barrels, until gutters are installed on the Morrow Community Storage Shed, where the barrels are to be placed.

Funding and gutters have not yet been allocated. The food grade barrels have been donated by Ann Hanson and Joe Cook, in support of the Sparta Community Garden. Once the barrels are cut, screen mesh will be added to the top, to inhibit debris and bugs from gathering there. A spigot will be needed on each barrel, so that the garden hose donated by Mic Armstrong can be utilized for watering. For now, volunteers are hiking down to Beaver Creek and hauling buckets up the hill and over to the thirsty plants. Some volunteers are also hauling buckets of water in their cars. Volunteers are thankful that recent rains are also helping to keep things going and growing.

All are welcome to visit the Sparta Community Garden. There is a bench to rest upon, under a shade tree. There are also plants to learn about and enjoy and volunteer opportunities to weed, plant, and water are always available to anyone.

On Tuesday, June 24th, the Herald was out watering the Sparta Community Garden. When trail walkers passed by, The Herald handed them a watering can, and they joined in on the fun and service work. Anyone and everyone in the community is encouraged to step up and get involved because only together can we grow a better Sparta.

LOCATION

The Sparta Community Garden is located along the Trail, between Beaver Creek and the Morrow Home, at Evans Bosshard Park, near the Oak Street Bridge, The Sparta Fire District Building, and Sparta Soda Works. There is always ample parking on Oak Street.



Dorcas of Pine Ridge Green House, of Melvina, generously gave the Sparta Community Garden flowers, vegetables, and other annals left over from her busy greenhouse sales season. The Sparta Community Garden is located along the Trail between Beaver Creek and the Morrow Home, at Evans Bosshard Park, near the Oak St Bridge, The Sparta Fire District Building, and Sparta Soda Works. Parking on Oak Street is easy. All are welcome. Herald photo by Jennifer Rodriguez Moran.

Sparta resident Donna Jaeger pauses during a walk along the trail at Evans Bosshard Park to lend a hand and water the garden. Whether you help for 1 minute, 1 hour, or the community garden becomes your daily passion, volunteering can be as fun and easy nourishing plants with water, donating plants or materials, sharing knowledge or resources, or anything else you'd like to contribute. Herald photo by Jennifer Rodriguez Moran.



Deb Page, of Sparta, volunteers to help move mountains of dirt for the new raised beds at the Sparta Community Garden. With a smile! Currently without funding, the community garden relies on donations of time, resources, muscle, and materials. The garden is off to a good start with lots of room to grow. Herald photo by Jennifer Rodriguez Moran.

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Monroe County Circuit Court News

June 24

•Tim Harmon, 68, of Tomah, was charged with attempt 1st degree intentional homicide, stalking resulting in bodily harm, strangulation and suffocation, false imprisonment, disorderly conduct, and battery, all related to domestic abuse, operating a firearm with a controlled substance, 2 counts of resisting an officer, and 2 counts of bail jumping. A \$75,000 cash bond was set.

•Keivon Alicea-Diamond, 22, of Tomah, was charged with battery, criminal damage to property, and disorderly conduct, all related to domestic abuse, 2 counts of resisting an officer, and 3 counts of bail jumping. A \$750 cash bond was set.

•Isaac Morales, 48 of Tomah, was charged with possession of narcotic drugs and an illegal article. A \$200 arrest warrant was issued.

•Angel Rosas-Martinez, 37, of St. Paul, Minnesota, was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and above the prohibited alcohol level, operating a vehicle without a valid license, possession of open intoxicants in a vehicle, reckless driving endangering the safety of others, and resisting an officer. A \$1,000 signature bond was set.

June 25

•Jeffery Burrows, 67, of Sparta, was charged with repeated sexual assault of a child and 2nd degree sexual assault of a child, both under a lifetime supervision of serious sex offenders. Defendant guilty on all charges June 25. Sentencing September 9.

•Carlos Delgado-Carbonell, 27, of Tomah, was charged with disorderly conduct. A \$500 signature bond was set.

•Joseph Parchman, 36, of Sparta was charged with repeated domestic abuse disorderly conduct. A \$100 cash bond was set.

•Jonathan Rickey, 19, of Sparta, was charged with 2nd degree sexual assault of child, 3 counts of exposing genitals and intimate parts, 2 counts of child enticement by exposing genitals, 2 counts of sexual intercourse with minor child 16 or older, A \$10,000 cash bond was set. Defendant found guilty on 2nd degree sexual assault and sexual intercourse with a minor child. All other offenses are dismissed. Sentenced to 12 months in jail and 1-10 years of probation.

•Daimon Verken, 22, of Tomah, was charged with use of a computer to facilitate a child sex crime; employing, using, or inducing child sexual exploitation, child enticement for sexual contact, exposing a child to harmful descriptions, 1st degree sexual assault causing great bodily harm, 2nd degree sexual assault of a child; exposing genitals, pubic area, or intimate parts to a child, and intent to contribute to the delinquency of a child. A \$15,000 cash bond was set.

•Luke Wentler, 37, of Beloit, was charged with stalking and knowingly violating a child abuse order. An arrest warrant

was issued.

June 26

•Angel Gebhardt, 32, of Sparta, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. A \$1,000 signature bond was set.

June 27

•Marlon Adams, 53, of Lafayette, Indiana, was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, possession of drug paraphernalia and THC. A \$1,000 signature bond was set.

•Amanda Anderson, 31, of Melrose, was charged with disorderly conduct, trespassing, and resisting an officer. A \$500 signature bond was set.

•Courtney Bergeron, 44, of Milwaukee, was charged with a 2nd offense of possession of amphetamine, LSD, or Psilocin, a 2nd offense of possession of cocaine and THC, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of open intoxicants in a vehicle. A \$263.50 traffic fine was imposed. June 28.

•Avery Bolduan, 30, of Winona, Minnesota, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. A \$500 signature bond was set.

•Jeremy Bonner, 47, was charged with possession with the intent of distributing amphetamine or methamphetamine. A \$5,000 signature bond was set.

•Krimzen Perea, 23, of Tomah, was charged with six counts of use of a dangerous weapon in an attempted 1st-degree intentional homicide, to cause mayhem, 1st degree reckless injury, aggravated battery intending to cause great bodily harm. Defendant found guilty on counts 1-4. Criminal damage to property and disorderly conduct charges were dismissed May 14. Defendant sentenced to 17 years in prison, and 10 years extended supervision plus ordered to pay restitution.

•Jesse Peterson, 33, of Sparta, was charged with retail theft by altering a price. A \$5,000 signature bond was set.

•Laurie Warthan, 51, of Sparta, was charged with intentional retail theft. June 28.

•James Wilson, 50, of Tomah, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. A \$250 arrest warrant was issued.

•Tremaine Wilson, 37, of Chicago, Illinois, was charged with repeated robbery with use of force, intimidation of a victim with threats of force, battery, criminal damage to property, theft of movable property, disorderly conduct, and bail jumping. A \$50,000 cash bond was set.

June 28

•Winford Riner, 58, of Tomah, was charged with repeated disorderly conduct and 5 counts of repeated bail jumping. A \$100 cash bond was set.

July 1:

•Kevin Harris, 43, of Chicago, Illinois, was charged with a 2nd offense of possession of THC. A \$100 cash bond was set.

•Justin Kuehl, 44, of Madison, was charged with disorderly conduct. A \$250 cash bond

was requested, and a \$500 signature bond was set.

•Trevor Nichols, 37, of Sparta, was charged with repeated possession of methamphetamine and THC. A \$1,000 signature bond was set. Defendant was further charged with repeated party to a crime in the possession of narcotic drugs, THC, and drug paraphernalia, and repeated bail jumping. A \$1,000 cash bond was requested, and a \$500 cash bond was set.

•Santana Rodriguez, 25, of Tomah, was charged with repeated 2nd degree recklessly endangering the safety of others, operating a firearm while intoxicated, carrying a concealed weapon, criminal damage to property, resisting an officer, and disorderly conduct in the use of a dangerous weapon. A \$2,000 cash bond was requested, and a \$1,500 cash bond was set.

•Brianna Schultz, 25, of Holmen, was charged with repeated party to a crime in the possession of narcotic drugs and drug paraphernalia. A \$750 cash bond was requested, and a \$500 cash bond was set.

July 2:

•Christina Combs, 54, of Elroy, was charged with bail jumping. A \$500 signature bond was set.

•Daniel Triplett, 35, of Tomah, was charged with failure to report to county jail. An arrest warrant was issued.

July 3:

•Cody Baldwin, 27, of Tomah, was charged with repeated intentional retail theft and 3 counts of bail jumping. A \$500 signature bond was set.

•Addys Duarte-Gonzalez, 28, of Sparta, was charged with hit and run accident, 2 counts of operating a vehicle under a revoked license, resisting an officer, and failure to install or tampering with an ignition interlock device in violation of court order. A \$500 Arrest warrant was issued.

•Troy Fowler, 37, of Tomah, was charged with repeated strangulation and suffocation, battery, and disorderly conduct, all related to domestic abuse. A \$2,000 cash bond was set.

•James Osmond, 38, of Janesville, was charged with repeated criminal damage to property and disorderly conduct, both related to domestic abuse. A \$500 cash bond was set.

•Michael Rouse, 31, of Tomah, was charged with a 2nd offense of possession of cocaine and THC, repeated possession of drug paraphernalia, and repeat bail jumping. A \$2,000 signature bond was set.

•William Williams, 48, of Sparta, was charged with domestic abuse disorderly conduct and bail jumping. A \$150 cash bond was set.

July 5:

•Taylor Butterfuss, 34, of Sparta, was charged with repeated possession of narcotic drugs and drug paraphernalia. A \$2,500 signature bond was set.

•Winford Riner, 58 of Tomah, was charged with 8 counts of repeated bail jumping. A \$500 signature bond was set.

Editorial Notes

-These are only charges. An individual is presumed innocent until proven guilty.
 -A signature bond releases a person on their signature to return to court on a specified date.
 -A cash bond normally requires 100% cash to be posted.
 -Prosecutors may recommend higher bails than is finally set. Bail is ultimately determined by the judge in the case. Several factors weigh into this decision, most commonly, whether the defendant is a flight risk or presents a danger to others.
 -Bail jumping charges are violations of the conditions of the bail.
 -Bail jumping creates a further strain on law enforcement requiring rearrest and reprocessing.
 -THC is tetrahydrocannabinol, more commonly called cannabis or marijuana.

LOOKING BACK

This Week In History



Starting Over

After one of Sparta's favorite watering holes burned several weeks ago, signs of reconstruction were noted earlier this week. Efforts to rebuild the "Wonder Bar" at 115 W. Oak St. looked to be well underway.

Photo by Randy L. Herman

The Wonder Bar recovers from a 2004 fire. Herald photo by Randy Herman.

140 Years ago (1884)

West bound passenger No 3 C.M & St. Paul ran into a valuable Jersey cow belonging to Mr. Fanning, near the depot this morning and converted her into jerked beef in short order. Her owner had refused \$75 (about 3000 today) for her.

130 Years Ago (1894)

Willim Thompson, one of the men who ran off a lot of cattle from near Tunnel City last week, was captured in La Crosse, brought here to be locked up. He is likely to plead guilty and take sentence from the county judge.

105 Years ago (1919)

The decomposed body of Byron L. Bohn, Elroy, rural mail carrier and onetime Kendal schoolteacher, was found last week Wednesday forenoon in the dining hall at the Spiritualist campground, in Wonewoc.

65 Years ago (1969)

It has been more than a year since the Hotel Sidney was destroyed by fire, but its ruins still remain an eyesore.

40 Years Ago (1984)

An editorial cartoon urges minimum wage proposal for teens at (a whopping) \$2.50 an hour. Seven fled from a burning house, as Sparta Rural firefighters were summoned at 4:30 a.m. to a split-level duplex on Hwy 27, across from the Leon Cemetery.

30 Years Ago (1994)

The county voted last week to change the name of Rolling Hills, to get rid of the "negative connotation" they felt accompanied the words nursing home. The new title Rolling Hills Rehabilitation Center and Care Home better reflects what the county facility has to offer.

20 Years Ago (2004)

Starting Over: After one of Sparta's favorite watering holes burned several weeks ago, signs of reconstruction were noted earlier this week. Efforts to rebuild the "Wonder Bar," at 115 W. Oak St. looked to be well underway.



115 Oak Street today occupied by the Hangout bar. Herald photo by John Gessner.

COUNTY HIGHWAY BC TO CLOSE

County Trunk Highway BC, over Putnam Ridge, between Garden Avenue and Harbor Road, in the Town of Sparta, in Monroe County, will be closed effective **Monday, July 15, 2024**, to facilitate re-construction of the highway.

Advance notice signs will be posted. No formal detour will be established.

Gerke Excavating of Tomah has been awarded a \$764,000.00 contract to construct the 3/4-mile-long project. The project is funded by the County Highway Improvement Program and Monroe County. The project is expected to be complete by the end of August.

For additional information please contact the Monroe County Highway Department at (608) 269 - 8740 or via e-mail at highways@co.monroe.wi.us.

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Bob and Barb Sutton
 11323 Emerson Road,
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HELP WANTED 90

BOOKKEEPER WANTED

Evans Print & Media Group is Hiring a full time bookkeeper. Duties to include: Accounts receivable, accounts payable, collections, etc. Quickbooks and bookkeeping experience preferred.

Call Kyle Evans at 608-377-4296 or e-mail your resume to kyle@monroecountyherald.com



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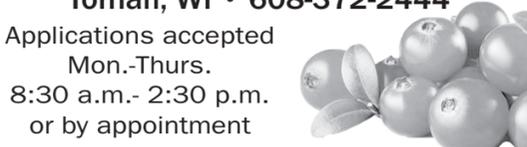
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Applications accepted Mon.-Thurs.

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The Tomah Area School District has a position for you starting for the 2024-2025 School Year!

Positions Start July 16th for the 45/15 calendar and August 27th for the regular calendar.

Single Health Insurance Available for Many Positions, Including Some Bus Driving Positions!

Many Positions are Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) Eligible!!!

HOW TO APPLY:

Log into https://wecan.waspa.org and create an account. Applicants can view openings and complete the appropriate online application and cover letter of the desired posting before the application deadline.

Openings can also be viewed on the Tomah School District website at www.tomah.education.

Click on "Employment" under the "About" heading.

Coaching Positions Available Also!

Tomah Area School District is an EOE. Si necesita Ud. ayuda en la traducción de este documento, por favor llame a la especialista Si de ELL del distrito a 374-7014.

- School Bus Driver- Substitute and Permanent
School Van Driver- Substitute and Permanent
Job #827- Full Time PM Custodian Floater
Job #826- Clerk- Tomah High School Guidance- July 11, 2024
Job #825- Oakdale Certified Aide-
Job #824- Lemonweir Timer Pups 4K Non-Certified Aide
Job #823- LaGrange Non-Certified Aide
Job #822- LaGrange Certified Aide
Job #821- LaGrange Non-Certified Aide
Job #820- LaGrange Certified Aide
Job #818- Middle School Certified Aide
Job #817- LaGrange Certified Aide-
Job #814- Oakdale Certified Aide

- Job #813- Clerk District Office/ Summer Pack (12 month position)- July 5, 2024
Job #811- LaGrange Certified Aide
Job #808- Warrens Certified Aide
Job #807- Lemonweir Certified Aide
Job #806- RKLK Non-Certified Aide
Job #804- Miller Certified Aide
Job #803- THS Non-Certified Aide
Job #800- LaGrange Certified 4K Aide
Job #794- Warrens Certified Aided
Job #792- Lemonweir Certified Aide
Job #790- Lemonweir Non-Certified Aide
Job #788- LaGrange 4K Non-Certified Aide
Job #771- Middle School Certified Aide
Job #770- Miller Certified Aide
Job #745- Lemonweir Certified Aide (45/15)
Job #734- Miller Certified Aide

70 RUMMAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE: Every Sat. & Sun., 22836 Hertz Ave., Tomah, 3:30am - 4:30pm. Woodworking crafts (i.e.: bowls, charcuterie boards, coffee tables). Reloader w/supplies, duck decoys, lawn furniture, gas griddle, ice fishing equipment, fish camera, 2-person portable ice shanty, CF MOTO 800 ZUP. Many misc.

GARAGE SALE: 815 Kent St., 7/11, 1-6pm, 7/12 and 7/13, 8-5. Toys, collectables, craft & scrapbooking supplies, decor, men's table, women's clothes size L-3XL. Complete game systems, PS1, PS2, PS3, Xbox 360, Wii and much misc.

GARAGE SALE: 815 Kent St., 7/11, 1-6pm, 7/12 and 7/13, 8-5. Toys, collectables, craft & scrapbooking supplies, decor, men's table, women's clothes size L-3XL. Complete game systems, PS1, PS2, PS3, Xbox 360, Wii and much misc.

HUGE CRAFT SUPPLIES & RUMMAGE SALE: Wed. July 10 thru Sat. July 13, 9am to 4pm daily. All types of beads, jewelry making equipment, containers, display racks, 3&4 drawer rolling units, 3 drawer countertop units. Large "Tast of Home" cookbook collection, many books - children's & educational like new. Apartment sized refrigerator, pet dishes, some glassware, lots of misc., free small recliner. 18338 Icebox Rd., Sparta.

GARAGE SALE: July 13-14, 8am-2:30pm, 17744 Imperial Rd., Sparta. Tools, hunting, fishing, household items and much more.

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HELP WANTED 90

TOMAH TRANSIT DRIVERS NEEDED: Full time - part time - weekends, \$15-16/Hr. Good driving record. Go to www.abbyvans.com and fill out our online application. Questions call 715-743-3364. An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

PART TIME POSITION: The Tomah Area Museum is seeking applicants for the position of Assistant Director. This is a half-time position averaging 20 hours per week. Starting annual salary range is \$15,000 - \$25,000, depending on qualifications and experience. Applications will be accepted through August 1, 2024. To apply submit a cover letter with resume or cover letter with curriculum vitae to: Executive Director, Tomah Area Museum, 321 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI 54660. Additional information regarding the position is available at www.tomahmuseum.com

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE

Town of Adrian, Town of Angelo, Town of Lafayette, Town of Little Falls, Town of New Lyme, Town of Sparta, Town of Wells, Town of Leon

VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT Any qualified elector who is unable to appear at the polling place on Election Day may request to vote an absentee ballot. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen, who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, who has resided in the ward or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for at least 28 consecutive days before the election. The elector must also be registered in order to receive an absentee ballot. Proof of identification must be provided before an absentee ballot may be issued.

You must make a request for an absentee ballot in writing or online at MyVote.wi.gov.

Contact your municipal clerk and request that an application for absentee ballot be sent to you for the primary or election or both. You may also request an absentee ballot by letter, fax, email or you may apply for an absentee ballot online at MyVote.wi.gov. Your written request must list your voting address within the municipality where you wish to vote, the address where the absentee ballot should be sent, if different, your signature and a copy of your photo identification. You may make application for an absentee ballot by mail, email or in person or at MyVote.wi.gov.

MAKING APPLICATION TO RECEIVE AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL

The deadline for making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail is: 5p.m. on the fifth day before the election, Thursday, August 8, 2024

Note: Special absentee voting application provisions apply to electors who are indefinitely confined to home or a care facility, in the military, hospitalized or serving as a sequestered juror. If this applies to you, contact the municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

VOTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT IN PERSON

You may also request and vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office or other specified location, during the days and hours specified for casting an absentee ballot.

CONTACT YOUR MUNICIPAL CLERK FOR INFORMATION FROM THE LIST BELOW.

THE DEADLINE FOR VOTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE IS 5:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE THE ELECTION, AUGUST 9, 2024.

No in-person absentee voting may occur on the day before the election.

The municipal clerk will deliver voted ballots returned on or before the Election Day to the proper polling place or counting location before the polls close on August 13, 2024. Any ballots received after the polls close will not be counted.

- Kathy Schmitz, Clerk Town of Adrian 608-633-1868
Mary Carlisle, Clerk Town of Angelo 608-343-1126
Sue Bushmaker, Clerk Town of La Fayette 608-633-6958
Cassandra Schober, Clerk Town of Little Falls 715-896-4826
Lisa Green, Clerk Town of New Lyme 608-487-0051
Lisa Brey, Clerk Town of Sparta 608-269-4830
Diane Schwarz, Clerk Town of Wells 608-654-5489
Kristy Brown, Clerk Town of Leon 608-269-5873
7/11 WNAXLP

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Public Notice

Morrow Memorial Home for the Aged, Inc. hereby provides notice that it intends to apply to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the following transportation projects under Section 5310 to serve seniors and individuals with disabilities in Sparta, WI.

1 Transit/Bariatric Vehicle - Rear Entry Medium Roof, Ambulatory plus driver/Wheelchair 7/0- 3/1-3/2

Individuals or agencies wishing to comment or receive additional information about this application should contact Daniel P. Meyer at 608-269-3168, 331 S. Water St. Sparta, WI or dmeyer@morrowhome.org.

Formal comments or requests for additional information must be received in writing or by email 14 days after publication. 7/1, 8, 11, 15, 18 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 24 PR 71

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

Mark Kenworthy

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

- 1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 01/26/1959 and date of death 06/05/2024, was domiciled in Monroe County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 17354 Interlude Road, Tomah, WI 54660.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
THE COURT ORDERS:
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 10/15/2024.
5. A claim may be filed at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 S. Court St. Sparta, WI, Room 2300.

Diane Berendes Probate Registrar 07/08/2024

Joshua D. Shudlick Shudlick Law Office LLC PO Box 586 (608) 372-4104 State Bar Number 1084905 7/11, 18, 25 WNAXLP

NOTICE OF BID

The Monroe County Administration Department is seeking sealed bid proposals from a qualified firm to provide a Business Operations and Process Improvement study for Monroe County Government Offices. All bids shall be contained in a sealed envelope and marked "Enclosed Bid - BUSINESS OPERATIONS & PROCESS IMPROVEMENT STUDY RFP". Said instructions can be downloaded from the Monroe County website https://www.co.monroe.wi.us/departments/county-administrator or contact Adrian Lockington at 608-269-8006. Sealed bids must be delivered to Adrian Lockington no later than 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at the Monroe County Executive Center 124 N Court St Sparta, WI 54656. Bids received or tendered after that time and date will not be accepted. Actual receipt is required by said time; deposit in the mail is insufficient. Facsimile or email bids will not be accepted. Award of the contract to the successful qualified bidder shall be based upon the bid determined most advantageous to the county after evaluating the specific criteria requested. Bids must remain firm once submitted and may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety days, subject to provisions for correction of errors in the bid as contained in §66.0901, Wisconsin Statutes, Monroe County Ordinance, and Administrative Rules.

7/11 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No. 24CV177

In the matter of the name change of:

Evalynn Marie Denton By (Petitioner) Amanda Finnigan

NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From:

(First) Evalynn (Middle) Marie (Last) Denton

To:

(First) Evalynn (Middle) Marie (Last) Finnigan

Birth Certificate:

(First) Evalynn (Middle) Marie (Last) Denton

IT IS ORDERED:

This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Monroe County, State of Wisconsin.

Judge's Name: Goodman Place: Monroe County Courthouse 1125 court st Sparta wi 54656 Date: August 04 2024 Time: 09:30am

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Monroe County Herald, a newspaper published in Monroe County, state of Wisconsin.

BY THE COURT:

Dated this 27 day of June 2024 Goodman Judge

7/8, 11, 18 WNAXLP

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 24 PR 68

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

Joy E. Bever

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

- 1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 07/03/1953 and date of death 06/17/2024, was domiciled in Monroe County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 22246 Kimball Road, Wilton, WI 54670.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
THE COURT ORDERS:
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 10/01/2024.
5. A claim may be filed at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 South Court Street, Sparta, Wisconsin, Room 2300.

Diane Berendes Probate Registrar 06/24/2024

Joshua D. Shudlick Shudlick Law Office LLC PO Box 586, Tomah, WI 54660 (608) 372-4104 State Bar Number 1084905 6/27, 7/8, 11 WNAXLP

185475 PUBLICATION SUMMONS STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY Hon. ROCHARD RADCLIFFE Case Code: 30301 Case No. 24CV128

AMERICAN FAMILY MUTUAL INSURANCE CO., S.I. 6000 AMERICAN PKWY MADISON, WI 53783 Plaintiff,

vs.

TREVOR LINDBLAD

31124 FRESNO AVE. TOMAH, WI 54660 Defendant.

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To each person named above as a Defendant:

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within forty (40) days after July 11, 2024, you must respond with a written answer as that term is used in chapter 802 of the Wisconsin statutes, to the complaint. The court may reject or disregard an Answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 112 S. Court St., Sparta, WI 54656, and to the offices of Heuer Law Offices, S.C., Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 300 N. Executive Dr., Suite 101, Brookfield, WI 53005. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within forty (40) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. Dated this 2nd day of July, 2024.

Attorney for Plaintiff Heuer Law Offices, S.C. Jonathan D. McCollister (State Bar No. 1037740) 300 N. Executive Dr., Suite 101 Brookfield, WI 53005 Phone: (414) 224-3500 7/11, 18, 25 WNAXLP

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STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration) Case No. 24PR67

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

Sheryl M. Gunder

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

- 1. An application for informal administration was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 06/28/1949 and date of death 03/04/2019, was domiciled in Monroe County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of 12928 Co Hwy PP, Tomah, WI 54660.
3. All interested persons waived notice.
THE COURT ORDERS:
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is 10/01/2024.
5. A claim may be filed at the Monroe County Courthouse, 112 S. Court St., Sparta, Wisconsin, Room 2300.

Diane Berendes Probate Registrar 06/24/2024

Sadie Minobe Krueger Hernandez & Thompson SC 7601 University Ave., Suite 201, Middleton, WI 53562 (608) 824-9540 State Bar Number 1095332 7/8, 11, 18 WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN:

CIRCUIT COURT:

MONROE COUNTY

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE Case Number: 2023CV000122

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. Estate of Mildred J. Gillespie, et al, Defendants.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure entered on January 22, 2024, in the amount of \$178,579.53, the Sheriff will sell the described premises at public auction as follows:

ORIGINAL TIME: August 7, 2024 at 10:00AM

TERMS:

1. 10% of the successful bid is due at the time of sale. Payment must be in cash, certified check, or cashier's check, payable to the Monroe County Clerk of Courts. The balance of the successful bid must be paid to the Clerk of Courts in cash, cashier's check or certified funds not later than ten days after the court's confirmation of the sale; failure to pay balance due will result in forfeiture of deposit to Plaintiff. 2. The property is sold "as is" and subject to all legal liens and encumbrances. 3. Upon confirmation of the court, buyer to pay applicable Wisconsin Real Estate Transfer Tax in addition to the purchase price. PLACE: in the lobby of the New Justice Center, 112 S. Court St., Room 500, Sparta, Wisconsin. Property description: The East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 34, Township 18 North, Range 1 East, in the Town of Byron, Monroe County, Wisconsin. And the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 34, Township 18 North, Range 1 East, in the Town of Byron, Monroe County, Wisconsin. Tax Key No.: 006-00830-0000 Property Address: 31344 Fresno Avenue, Tomah, WI 54660

Randall S. Miller & Associates, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 342 N. Water Street, Suite 613 Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 937-5992 Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1692), we are required to state that we may be attempting to collect a debt on our client's behalf and any information we obtain may be used for that purpose. 7/8, 11, 18 WNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING IN THE MATTER OF STATE AND FEDERAL AID FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS AT

Bloyer Field airport Monroe County Wisconsin

The City of Tomah is considering petitioning the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, for state and federal aid to undertake the following development at the Bloyer Field Airport:

Reconstruct airfield electrical including NAVAIDS; Maintain Airfield Pavements; Clear and maintain runway approaches as stated in Wis. Admin. Code Trans §55, and any necessary related work.

Notice is hereby given that the City of Tomah, Monroe County, will hold a public hearing at 5:30 pm on July 24, 2024, in the City of Tomah Council Chambers - 819 Superior Ave.

All interested persons are invited to attend and present their views on the need for the proposed airport development.

Parking for people with disabilities and an accessible entrance are available at the main entrance to City Hall. Please call the City of Tomah at 608-374-7452 two days in advance of the hearing to make specific accessibility requests.

Director of Public Works and Utilities (Authority)

(Signature)

Published in the Monroe County Herald Date: Publication Date 7/11/2024

7/11 WNAXLP

NEED TYPESETTING? EVANS PRINT + MEDIA 1302 RIVER ROAD (608) 269-9797

Squirrelfest Tomah

SQUIRRELS

(Continued from Front Page)

The energies that nasa provides at their events is so captivating and contagious that passersby become attendees, and when the horn sounds for the finale, everyone, collectively, pretends not to hear it.

A well-coordinated and planned event

Squirrelfest 2024 was the event of all events. The coordinators thought of everything that makes an event great. Not only was the park equipment available for children to enjoy, but the fest also had two bounce houses, face painting, fishing poles, and arts and crafts. There was both a kids' raffle and an adult raffle. While the adults paid for their tickets, children earned their tickets through games. Some of the games included a lively rubber ducky race, a quick game of speedball, and an intricate ring toss board.

Some individuals and families also enjoyed a pontoon ride and/or tractor wagon ride. An adult basket raffle and tickets to win grand prizes were also available. While the basket winners have been drawn, the grand prize tickets, totaling over \$48,000, will be drawn on September 7th, 2024, during the Cashton Fall Fest.

Under the Molter's Fresh Market tent, delicious food that fit the theme of the festive 4th of July weekend celebration was available for purchase. The summer holiday classics, like cheeseburgers, hot dogs, and pulled pork or chicken sandwiches were all there for the eating. Cold drinks were also available, and draft beer was only \$1.

Squirrelfest had captivating, live entertainment, too. Two bands performed on the Tomah Chamber's stage, and DL Weatherhead Timberworks Lumberjack Show performed three one-on-one logger competitions on another make-shift stage.

Yo-Ho, a Timber Show

The Timberworks Lumberjack Show was quite an extravaganza. To begin the event, a little history on logging was shared. Logging camps would get together and compete in events, like we were about to see, to determine which camp had the fastest, toughest, and best all-around loggers in the area.

The crowd was divided into two camps: left-side Camp 13, Cassidy Scheer, and right-side Camp 9, Hunter Issacson. The loggers competed in seven events: single crosscut saw (long, hand saw), ax throwing, springboard chop, which sees the competitors standing on a board wedged into the tree trunk, while axing another notch, in order to keep moving up. There was also a cant hook relay, which involved lifting a log with a hook and cutting with a chainsaw. There was also a hot saw (chainsaw), speed climb (scale a 45-foot pole and slide down), and log rolling, in water. Log rolling puts human against human, on a log, in the water. Balance is the key to success here and being able to keep it while feet-spinning the log in different directions. A lot of whooping and hollering was shared amongst teams and attendees, rooting for their newly acquired team. In the final event, Scheer prevailed by one.

From nasa's Stutzman

When the Herald reached out to nasa, to get their take on the event, David Stutzman took the call. "We had absolutely a fantastic day ... a banner day to be honest. I would estimate that throughout the day, we had over 5,000 people show up."

Stutzman went on to say

that the three lumber jack shows were an absolute hit. "The lumberjacks' interaction with the crowd was amazing, especially with the kids," Stutzman said. "They divided us into two different camps, camp 9 and camp 13. They would also give away a souvenir away, at the end of each show, to a youngster in the crowd ... a young squirrel."

Stutzman informed the Herald that at last year's event they recognized some internal issues that they were able to correct this year. "Last year we had long lines, both at the pontoon rides and the food tent. We solved that quite easily, by getting a second pontoon boat, that the La Crosse nasa brought over for us to use. Our food tent ran smoothly, thanks to Monica Boehm, who redesigned the layout of it all. She was a rockstar, her and all the volunteers who helped her, in the food tent."

Stutzman was thrilled with the success of the day, stating, "The whole day does not happen without the volunteers who signed up to help us. We had over 100! That is usually incredibly hard to do on a holiday weekend in the summer. It is a testament to

nasa and it's a testament to the people who help us to make this happen."

Stutzman further stated that Sparta Cinema donated the cotton candy this year, with Strike Zone, in Tomah, donating popcorn, and over 700 cups of ice cream, which were donated by Dwyer Trucking. "Everything in the snack tent was free for people," Stutzman said. "We ran out of the cotton candy, popcorn, and ice cream. I could not have asked for more, it was a dream come true, in a lot of ways."

Stutzman informed the Herald that event was not a fundraiser. "This was a break-even event, that is why everything was free or really cheap. It is a give-back to the Monroe County community, for all of the support they give us, year around.

As will happen on hot summer days, one attendee passed out from heatstroke. "Our brand new UTV Chipmunk ended up taking her to urgent care, officially becoming its first official use. Chipmunk to the rescue!" Stutzman's last shoutout was to Gary Felber, who gave wagon rides during the event.



One of the many games children played to be entered in a kids raffle at N.A.S.A.'s Squirrelfest last Saturday, July 6th, 2024, was a rubber duck race. Lots of enthusiasm and cheering was heard around the race track. Herald Photo by Jayme Bahl.



The second band that played on the Tomah Chamber's stage at Squirrelfest was Backroads, a southern country and rock band. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.



The North American Squirrel Association (n.a.s.a.) has an initiative to help everyone get outdoors, disabled and elderly included. It seemed only fitting that fishing poles would be available during Squirrelfest. Here are a couple boys who took the opportunity to get some bites in during the high water. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.



Tomah's Winnebago Park was filled with people and tents last Saturday, July 6th, 2024. Squirrelfest, hosted by n.a.s.a. (North American Squirrel Association), offered many families an array of activities, such as kids games, fishing, and bounce houses. There was also live music, food and beverages, boat and wagon rides, and more. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.



Logger's first event was the single crosscut saw competition. Competitors used a long, hand saw to see who could cut through the log first. Left is Cassidy Scheer and right is Hunter Isaacson. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.



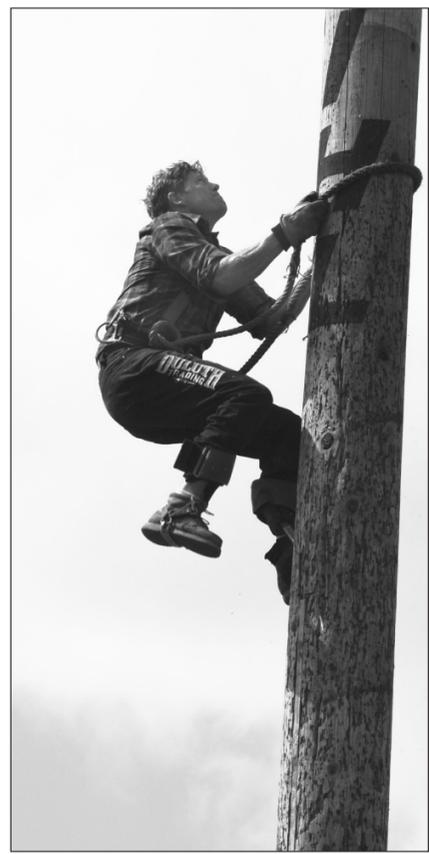
The second competition between the lumberjacks was the standard axe throw. While both competitors were off to a good start, Cassidy Scheer won the best of three. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.



The third event was the most unique competition that required a little backstory to understand. When the base of a tree was rotting, loggers would wedge a plank of wood and stand on top of that board to chop the healthy wood. While Hunter Isaacson did not win this round, he still finished the task at hand. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.



The fourth event between the lumberjacks was a relay. The first step was to roll logs with a cant hook (long metal pincher) to the side. Next, the lumberjacks cut through a log. Finally, they rolled the log back with the hook, tied a rope, and lifted the log into place. Here are both Scheer and Isaacson using the cant hook to roll the logs in the first relay leg. Herald Photo by Jayme Bahl.



The hot saw, or chainsaw, competition was the fifth event at the Lumberjack competition during Squirrelfest last Saturday, July 6th, 2024. The challenge was simple, saw down and back up again, for two slices. In what seemed like a second, Hunter Issacson's saw was off. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.

For the sixth event, loggers scaled a 45-foot pole in the speed climb competition. Both men were fast to climb, but Isaacson slid down the pole, at double the speed of Scheer, for the win. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.



Pontoon rides were available during Squirrelfest. Pictured here is one of the many groups that were taken out onto Lake Tomah. Herald Photo by Jayme Bahl.

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The Wayside Tavern, an Iconic Sparta Business

By **JOHN GESSNER**
Staff Writer

An era is coming to an end for Mike Wittmershaus, owner of the Sparta Wayside Tavern, as he retires from the business this month. Just as a military person can tell you the number of days that they were in the service, Mike related that he has owned and operated the Wayside Tavern for 26 years, 3 months and 12 Days. Recognizable by the iconic neon light tower, the Wayside has provided Sparta residents and travelers an opportunity to pull up a bar stool, in a friendly and comfortable environment. Before investing his life in the bar business, Mike worked in a variety of professions, including for the railroad, the Coulee region, Century foods, and a long stint at the Walmart distribution center. He jointly purchased the business in 1998 and has built a neighborhood bar, similar to the Cheers Bar, where “Everybody knows your name.”



Mike Wittmershaus, longtime owner of the Wayside Tavern, is all set to retire on July 13th, after 26 years in the business. Herald photo by John Gessner.

According to Mike, the customers made the business, as he created a comfortable “watering hole,” where the clientele can relax, enjoy meeting with friends over a cold beer, and share some tall tales. The regulars watch over each other, making sure everyone gets home safely. For the overindulgent customers,

Mike has pre-paid vouchers for a safe ride home. Besides the friendly atmosphere and loyal customers, Mike credits the success of his business with having great help in his bartenders and servers. He says that the job of a bartender goes well beyond pouring

drinks. One must have the right natural talent in this business, by providing an understanding ear, marriage advice, counseling and occasionally serving as a referee. During his 26 years, the requirement to involve the police was minimal, as customers tended to look after one another.

One significant feature at the Wayside is a variety of framed pictures on the wall. Unlike businesses that boast of celebrities visiting their establishments on a one-time basis, this wall honors regular people. These are friends and loyal customers over the years that have passed away. By this simple gesture, they are immortalized on this honor wall.

What’s in the retirement plan for Mike? Over the years, friends and family have moved to the four corners of the United States. Florida, Washington, Texas, and California, and they are all in his travel plans. Of course, you can’t be a true Wisconsinite without enjoying a day of fishing, which is also in his plans. He may pick up a retirement job, but for right now, his focus is to pass on the business that he has built and loved, to another owner.

His retirement party is planned for Saturday, July 13th. Besides the normal neighborhood bar atmosphere, he plans on having a 50-50 raffle, with all the proceeds going to support three of his favorite causes: the Freedom Honor Flight, the Sparta Area Cancer Support network, and the Sparta Food Pantry.

Plan to stop by and spend some time with your host, Mike Wittmershaus, who will be saying goodbye. After a few short days to set up for the new owners, the Wayside will reopen its doors on July 16th, and continuing the neighborhood bar traditions.

Mike Wittmershaus wanted to acknowledge and thank his ex-business partner and friend, Gary Stennott, also known as Moose. “I would love to thank all my past and present employees, all the distributors and their employees, and of course, all the customers over the years. Thanks for the memories, everyone. And to the new owners, I wish you all the best.”
Cutline

How to make Exercise a Habit...that sticks

People join a gym with good intentions of making exercise a part of their new healthy lifestyle. But so many fail to do this. Being in the gym business for nearly 25 years, I’ve developed an insider understanding of why this is and how to fix this problem.

A habit is only formed when your brain perceives pleasure each time you do something. If, for example, your brain perceives pleasure from drinking coffee each time you drink it in the morning, it doesn’t take long for it to become a habit. If your brain perceives discomfort when you do something, it won’t become a habit.

Let’s apply this to joining a gym. Unless you are experienced in a gym environment, you will be naturally uncomfortable each of the first times you go to the gym. This “discomfort” not only comes from the unfamiliar environment, but also from not knowing if what you’re doing is producing any results? So naturally unless your brain starts to perceive pleasure from going to the gym or you are seeing results that give you pleasure that overrides the perceived discomfort of going to the gym, your brain won’t make going to the gym a habit.

Your brain subconsciously and automatically wants to avoid discomfort but consciously you don’t want to look foolish joining a gym and then not going so when your willpower runs out forcing yourself to go to the gym, you tell the gym owner and friends you “don’t have time to workout”.

Unfortunately, most people didn’t know about this self-defeating natural occurrence when they decided they wanted to make exercise a habit in their lives. So how do you avoid this?

By understanding that a habit must be and can only be developed when your brain perceived pleasure here are my top 3 tips to make exercise a habit in your life that sticks:

1. Get someone to help you during your first few weeks in the gym. Hire a trainer or a friend who’s comfortable in the gym to teach you how to use the machines properly and who will help you develop your gym competency and therefore comfort in a gym.
2. Make it easy! Start by committing to going to the gym for just one good workout per week. Saturday mornings for example. This is MUCH easier for your brain to develop into a habit...and you can always add more days AFTER you’re developed the one day a week habit!
3. Focus on how good you feel after a workout rather than on your weight or appearance. Focus on how proud you are of yourself not being a “couch potato” and how great it is to be becoming a “gym person”. Feeling pride is a very effective way to establish a habit. A habit sticks for a lifetime when you identify yourself with the habit. In other words, when you see yourself as a “gym person”.

See you in the Gym,
-Dave

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10-day Denali and Alaskan Cruise. Fairbanks (Alaska), Whittier, Hubbard Glacier, Icy Strait Point, Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, Cruise the Inside Passage, Vancouver (British Columbia, CA) - August 1, 2025. Ocean view or balcony cabins on the Norwegian Jade.

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Sparta United Methodist Church receives a new Spiritual leader

By JOHN GESSNER Staff Writer

Recently, the Sparta United Methodist Church (UMC) received a new Spiritual leader, in the person of Pastor Lourdes Magalhaes. Pastor Magalhaes originally hails from San Paulo, Brazil, and brings a wealth of worldwide experience, applicable to small town central Wisconsin. She speaks of her thrill and excitement of joining the church as the pastor, saying to the church body, "My life's journey has been one of learning, serving, and growing in faith, and I am eager to embark on this journey with all of you."

Her call to ministry came at the early age of 15, and her walk with God has guided her since that time. Following service, as an elder at the Sao

Miguel Methodist Church, in San Paulo, Brazil, her studies brought her to Drew University, in New Jersey, majoring in Social Studies in Ministries. This was followed by a degree in Divinity, from the Methodist University of San Paulo.

Further, she pursued studies in the languages, specializing in Portuguese, English, and Latin, and earned a degree in Literature. Her passion for languages and cultural communication has taken her to London, New Jersey, and finally landed her in Wisconsin. She has an impressive resume, included in her letter to congregation, at the Sparta UMC.

In 2017, Magalhaes joined the Wisconsin Methodist Conference, serving at Wesley UMC, in Marshfield. Following her time there,

she was at the Cedarburg Community UMC. She has already faced the challenges of being the first female and first cross-racial pastor in a Midwestern community, and she comes to Sparta, ready to continue pursuing the great ministries already conducted by the Sparta UMC, as well as bringing a fresh perspective of her own.

She has already jumped into the deep end of the pool, involving herself in the many activities that Sparta and the surrounding area have to offer. The congregation has



Pastor Lourdes Magalhaes

welcomed her, and she has quickly gotten involved in community activities, including the farmers market, the bike trail, and the nature activities that the area provides.

Her goals are to build upon the ministries that have already been successful and impactful in the church and community. She has a desire to meet the social needs of the community, of which Sparta UMC is already deeply engaged in. An area of growth that she sees is bringing families back into the church, especially the

young people. The challenges that young people face today can be faced with a strong spiritual understanding and through strong families.

She feels that so much bad news is forced upon us by society, and she is determined to replace that with the good news, of a strong spiritual character. Strong characters further beget other strengths in the community. She sees God as one who is concerned with the small things in our lives and even a kind word or action can go a long way to building up one another.

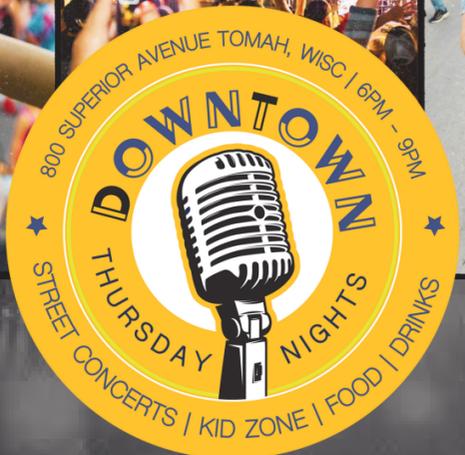
Her first official church service will be held on July 14th, followed by a welcome potluck, very popular in Wisconsin circles. Her message will be on Psalm 23, so familiar to many people. Wherever you may be in your station in life, Psalm 23 can

have a special meaning for you. It provides comfort and peace, in the midst of distress, and encouragement in brighter times.

On her mission to the Sparta UMC, Pastor Lourdes Magalhaes said, "I am here to bring a wealth of experience, empathy, and an unshakeable faith. My journey has been one of serving God and His people, overcoming challenges with resilience, and fostering unity within diverse communities. I am excited to begin this new chapter with all of you and look forward to the blessings and growth our shared journey will bring. Let us welcome this new beginning with open hearts and minds, ready to embrace the transformative journey ahead."

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TOMAH/SPARTA SPEEDWAY SUMMER SIZZLE 200

Hayden holds off Moore for win in second leg of Enduro series

By **PAUL REICHERT**
Contributing Writer

The Summer Sizzle 200, a brand new mid-season enduro race, provided a nice break for regular Friday night racing at the Tomah/Sparta Speedway on Friday, July 5.

Mother Nature cooperated to allow the 200 lap race - the second in the three-race Tomah/Sparta Triple Crown series - to go off without a hitch at the end of the regular work week. There were 50 four and six cylinder cars that entered the first-ever Summer Sizzle, though not all would make it to the end.

Adam Hayden, in the 286 car, managed to work his way to the front of the pack by lap 30. From there, the veteran driver maintained position

and would go on to claim the win after holding off second place Matt Moore and third place Garrett Strachota who were just one lap behind at the conclusion of the event.

SURVIVE AND ADVANCE

Alec Liebsch led the opening four circuits before Jason Berke powered by him to assume the number one position. Contact between Nick Randall and Paul Servais on the back straight just eight laps into the race left Servais stalled on the inside lane to bring out the red flag. Dylan Stemper suffered a flat tire on lap 11 and ended up sitting in the middle of the track coming out of turn four. Aaron Grattan spun on the old track in turn

SIZZLE cont. pg B2



Adam Hayden (286) overtakes the first turn during last week's 200 lap Summer Sizzle Enduro race at the Tomah/Sparta Speedway. Hayden claimed the lead after 30 laps and went on to capture the win by completing the race just a lap ahead of second and third place. **Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.**

EDITORIAL

THROUGH MY LENS

The sun sets on Iowa's summer diamond days

By **NATE BEIER**
Sports Editor



As quickly as the Wisconsin spring sports season comes to a close, I feel as though I'm always unprepared for the summer sports season in Iowa to wrap up.

You see, Iowa continues to cling to the notion that baseball and softball should be played in the summer. I think it's the right idea. Play ball when it's warm and hot and even sweltery seems much smarter to me than squeezing in a few innings before sleet or snow makes it impossible to play as we try in Wisconsin.

For the past 10 years I've had the privilege of jumping the border to watch how Iowa plays its summer sports, though many years, the ending of the season catches me off guard in the worst way.

This year, I made sure that didn't happen. I've taken at least one day a week for the past month for my Iowa teams (Kee (Lansing), Waukon and MLF MarMac (Monona)). I've enjoyed my drives down the Minnesota side of the Mississippi River to get to New Albin (where Kee plays base/softball) or my ridgetop cruises on Highway 9 on my way to Waukon, though those days are basically over now that their respective postseason tournaments are underway.

I made back-to-back runs to New Albin earlier this week to watch both Kee teams in the playoffs. Although the drive is around 75 miles from home, it's filled with wonderful sights and

BEIER cont. pg B2

SCENIC BLUFFS SOFTBALL PITCHER OF THE YEAR SARAH SCHROEDER, CASHTON

'I was more confident'

Cashton's Schroeder avoids complacency in repeating as SBC Pitcher of the Year

By **ZACH RASTALL**
Assistant Sports Editor

Winning an accolade as lofty as conference pitcher of the year as just a sophomore could lead a player to maybe become a bit complacent or rest on the laurels of past success.

Cashton pitcher Sarah Schroeder wasn't about to do anything of the sort. Rather than letting that success as an underclassman go to her head, Schroeder used it as further motivation to continue her climb as one of the best athletes in program history.

Schroeder joined rarified air by repeating as the Scenic Bluffs Pitcher of the Year this past spring, capping off a 2024 season where she once again served as a steadying force in the circle for the Eagles in their successful conference championship pursuit.

"I think I've grown most in my confidence on the mound," Schroeder said. "Obviously, freshman and sophomore year, I was really nervous up there just being an underclassman. But I feel like this past year it's just more comfortable having more experience, and I was more confident. Each pitch I was able to throw and each batter I was able to face, I wasn't really as nervous with some of those big hitters like I had been before."

So much of Schroeder's success can be attributed to the amount of work she puts in away from the softball diamond — not just honing in on her pitching skills, but also with her commitment to the weight room to ensure she's got the stamina needed to give her team her best each time out.

"It's impressive when you get a kid that weight trains as much as she does. She's really big into lifting weights and staying physically fit. That, to me, is a huge part of her success," said Cashton head coach Clint Kramer. "But then just her mental drive — she really wants to be the best ...



Cashton's Sarah Schroeder repeated as the Scenic Bluffs Conference Pitcher of the Year after helping the Eagles a second-straight league title this spring. The CHS junior attributes her success in the circle to a greater sense of comfort in her role as the team's leading weapon on defense. **Herald photo by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.**

her overall development as a player as in getting stronger, understanding the game more and just having that determination to be the best that she can be is how she's went from her freshman year until now."

Part of her progress from her sophomore to junior seasons was confidence and command

that allowed her coaches to put more trust in her. Kramer noted that in 2023 they had Schroeder pitching visually toward a square with four different spots within it. They expanded that this past season to six spots and she was able to try to utilize the corners of the strike zone more.

Additionally, Schroeder's

improving repertoire helped make her a more dominant pitcher who could induce more strikeouts.

"I think her biggest improvement too was developing her rise ball more," Kramer said. "Going from a fastball to a changeup,

PITCHER cont. pg B2

LEGION BASEBALL CLASS A REGIONAL

Bracket set for Bangor's Class A Legion regional

By **NATE BEIER**
Recognize.

The American Legion Baseball season will convert to postseason play in two weeks with regional tournaments. Bangor is hosting a Class A regional starting Thursday, July 25 and running through that weekend.

Bangor Post 40 is set to play in the nightcap on the first day of action against G-E-T at the high school field in Bangor.

The tournament will kick off with Prairie du Chien and Stoddard facing off at noon. Westby and B-State will follow at around 2:30 p.m. that same day.

The 12, 2:30 and 5 p.m. time slots will be filled with action on both Friday and Saturday July 26 and 27.

Sunday's championship game is set for 2:30 p.m. with a 5 p.m. game time set in place if necessary. The tournament is a double elimination event, meaning that one team may enter Sunday's event undefeated, thus possibly needed that final contest to decide a winner which will earn a bid to the state tournament the following week.

LEGION NOTES

Sparta's 17U team - the oldest group of Post 100's teams - will be part of the 17U regional in Holmen which starts on Thursday, July 18.

Sparta enters the tournament as the sixth seed and will play Black River Falls' 17U squad. Arcadia enters as the top team in the tournament.

LEGION ALL-STARS

Bangor's Chase Horstman and Westby's Connor Butzler (Cashton) are among the few area players selected for this year's Legion All-Star games. There are six other area players also on this year's All-Star squad.

The Legion All-Star game will be played at American Family Field in Milwaukee following the Brewers/Reds contest on Sunday, August 11.

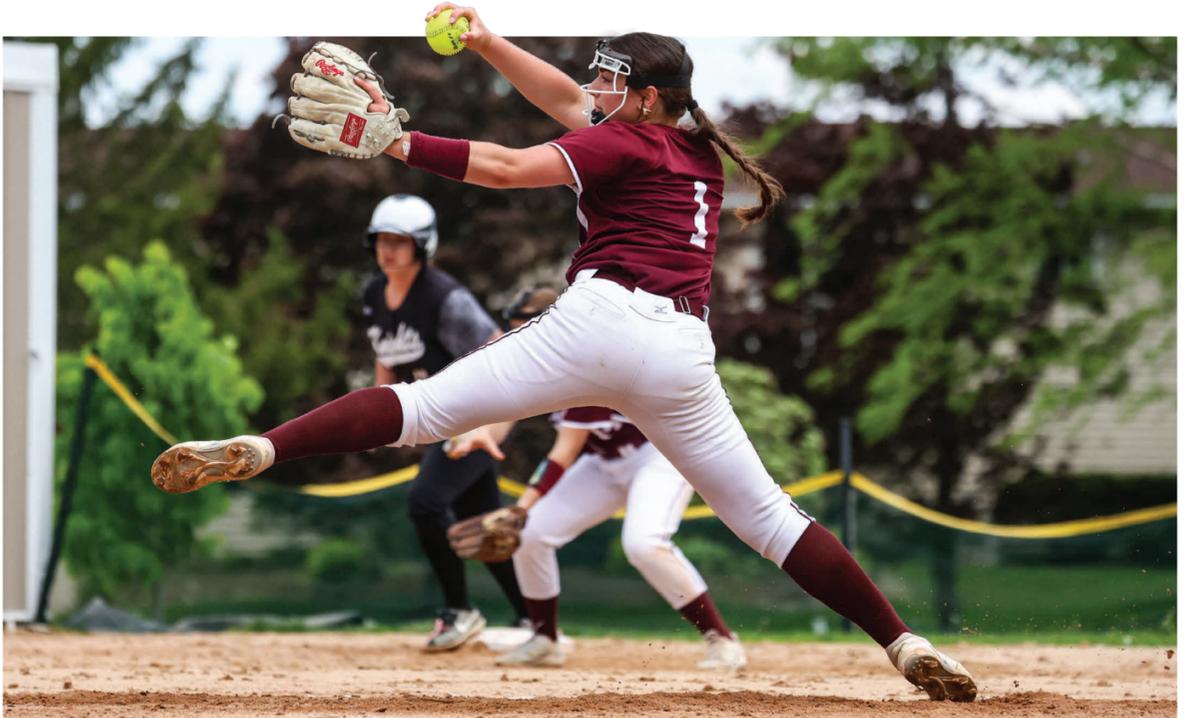
SCENIC BLUFFS CONFERENCE

All-Conference SOFTBALL



PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Michelyn Hansen (Hillsboro)

NAME	SCHOOL YEAR
FIRST TEAM	
Abby Langrehr	Bgr SO
Vanessa Anderson	Bkwd SR
Deanna Wallace	Bkwd JR
Emily Cunitz	Bkwd JR
Sydney Helgerson	Cash SR
Sarah Schroeder	Cash JR
Jaelyn Bloor	Hbro SR
Kiana Liska	Hbro JR
Michelyn Hansen	Hbro JR
Kelsey Justman	WC SR
Callissa Keller	WC JR
SECOND TEAM	
Ella Janisch	Bgr SR
KyMBER Kaiser	Bkwd SR
Keona Mickelson	Cash SR
Marlee Schroeder	Cash JR
Katie Leis	Cash JR
Elizabeth Cairns	Hbro SR
Hannah Hunkins	Nec JR
Brooklyn Gruen	Ryl SR
Jaelyn Stowe	WC SR
SPORTSMANSHIP	
Raeanna Keuler	Bgr JR
Kylie Powell	Bkwd SR
Reba Flock	Cash SR
Hayden Bohm	Hbro SR
Addisyn Schumer	Nec JR
Allie Hare	NL JR
Piper Pursell	Ryl JR
Bryn Ertel	WC SR



Cashton's Sarah Schroeder notched 13 Scenic Bluffs Conference wins this year and is just 13 wins away from the all-time leader for victories in Eagles history. Herald photo by Logan Everson/GX3 Media.

HARDLY A THOUGHT TOWARDS HISTORY: Eagles' hurler aiming to avoid stat chasing upon entering final season commanding the circle

PITCHER

cont. from pg B1

that's good that you have two pitches, but she's really worked hard on getting her rise ball to do what it does. And when it's on, it's nearly unhittable."

Yet there still is plenty out there for Schroeder to strive for as she continues her pursuit of constant improvement. From a team standpoint, the Eagles are still searching for their first regional title since 2019. On an individual level, Schroeder could repeat the path taken

by Lindsey Kramer (Clint's daughter), who was named the SBC Pitcher of the Year as a sophomore and junior and then was the conference's Player and Pitcher of the Year in 2016 as a senior.

However, as much as anything, Schroeder wants to place less pressure on herself, instead putting an emphasis on being in the moment and enjoying herself as much as possible with the knowledge that 2025 will mark her final season in a Cashton uniform.

"Personally, I just kind of want to have more fun out there," Schroeder said. "These past few years, I've just focused on trying to do my best but also trying to basically rack up the stats. This year, I want to have fun. I don't want to worry about the stats. I just want to go out and play and not be stressed about it because it's my last season and I do want to enjoy it and not worry so much about all the stats and what everybody else is thinking about me."



Cashton's Sarah Schroeder allowed just 12 earned runs in SBC play this spring and 3 overall, en route to a 16-3 record while commanding from the mound. Herald photo by Logan Everson/GX3 Media.

BEIER

cont. from pg B1

interesting landmarks that I've come to enjoy as part of my summer tradition. That little town of New Albin - famous for its City Meat Market - has become a second home of sorts for me as I'm always welcomed by the coaches and players as well as the fans that fill their stadiums (and those stadiums are some of the nicest ones you'll find). I took pause after Monday's softball game and just enjoyed my view from behind home plate. As I looked towards centerfield you can see the bluffs and the river valley in the background. I recall a billowing cloud passing overhead as well, reflecting the dusky red of the setting sun. It's important to take these things in.

On Tuesday, I left the baseball field and turned a keen eye to its space as I drove down the river. The lights were left on long after the game was over and those light poles shone bright against the dimly lit bluffs behind it. It's important to reflect on the good things. For me, my trips to Iowa over the course of the last number of years have been more than just work runs. They've been a sort of catharsis that's rejuvenated me after what's become the most stressful season - spring.

Sure, there are technically two weeks of action left over there, but there's hardly a chance I'll have someone get to state. Most likely, my teams are done after this week. Most likely, the next time I cross that wonky bridge in Lansing, I'll just be driving for fun instead of with a work purpose.

With the closure of the summer Iowa season comes the realization that our football seasons aren't that far away. Following that is a whole new run of sports for a year.

I'm not quite ready for that ride yet. Until then, I'll take some more Iowa therapy to make sure I'm ready for something this coming fall.

SIZZLE

cont. from pg B1

four on lap 18. After driving backwards to get an opening to right his race car, he did a 180 on the front straight to rejoin the action.

Adam Hayden shot past Berke to get the lead on lap 31, but seven laps later the day was over for Berke as he car came to a stop on the high side of turn two.

Just past the 50 lap mark of the race Scott Duda and Seth Scholl tangled on the front straight. Duda hit the inside wall hard and suffered major front and rear damage to his car to bring his race to an end. James Gratz and Louie Ansolabehere made contact in turn four on lap 63. Gratz ran into the stalled vehicle of Dylan Stemper and shortened its rear. Ansolabehere bounced off the inside wall on the front straight, but amazingly both drivers were able to stay in the race.

Monty Odegard could not get his mini-van to fire up on the restart and the red returned on lap 67 for his issue. Zachary Neal was stuck behind Odegard all this time, but was able to pull out from behind him and rejoin the action.

Just before the field reached 50 laps remaining in the race, contact on the back straight occurred between Sawyer Rohrer and Shawn Carpenter. Carpenter nosed into the back straight wall, but both racers were able to right themselves and run the last quarter of the race.

With only 18 laps to go, a multitude of calamities occurred on the track. In turn two, Dylan Sather made hard contact with the wall that saw his right rear tire break loose from his car. Sather was able to limp back to the pits and get a new wheel on his car and complete the race.

Meanwhile in turn four, Austin Dvorak's engine expired and forced him to retire to the infield.

Hayden was the unstoppable force on this night as he led nearly three-quarters of the race to score a dominant win in the Summer Sizzle 200.



ABOVE Jason Witte (9R) leads a pack of cars along the back stretch of the raceway at the Tomah/Sparta Speedway. Witte would finish in fourth place in Friday's 200 lap Enduro race.

BELOW Dylan Stemper (75) comes to stop after suffering a mechanical malfunction in the passenger side front tire while coming out of turn four.

Herald photos by Nate Beier/GX3 Media.

POINTS LEADERS

With just the Daytomah 200 left to decide the Tomah-Sparta Enduro Triple Crown Champion, Jason Witte and Garrett Strachota are tied for the lead. Chill Chaser winner Troy Tuma and Summer Sizzle winner Hayden are both tied for third, only 50 points behind. The final Enduro race is set for September 6.

SIX SHOOTER MANIA

The Tomah Area Credit Union Six Shooters have their night under the bright lights with the annual running of Six Shooter Mania on Friday, July 12.

The Six Shooters will run a longer feature for a bit more money in the feature purse thanks to division sponsor,

Tomah Area Credit Union.

Fans will also see Sportsmen, Hobby Stocks and the High School Racing Association on this week's playbill. With the Summer Olympics games on the horizon, the kids will have a chance to compete for glory themselves in the first-ever Quarter-Mile Marathon race after qualifying.

Stick around after the races for the fireworks show that should have taken place after the rained out program on June 28th, thanks to Victory Fireworks.

Gates open at 6, the fight to be the fastest in qualifying starts at 6:15 and the competitive on-track chaos goes green at 7:30.



LEFT Zach Liebsch (06) steers into turn one while a fire comes to life in the rear tire area. Liebsch exited the track shortly after and returned to the pit with just three tires remaining.



Dinosaurs and transformers take over Monroe County

By JAYME BAHL
Staff Writer

No Monroe County, it was not a dystopian dream you were having while traveling through town recently, those were “real” dinosaurs and transformers. Yes, on Sunday, June 30th, 2024, in a successful attempt to provide something extra for guests, Sparta Cinema 6, located at 1010 Maple Avenue, and Tomah O’Reilly, located at 1130 North Superior Avenue, offered a different type of entertainment for the community. To make the deal even sweeter, the cost to visit your favorite dinosaur or greet a transformer was only a dreamy and scrumptious cookie, from I Heart Cookies, based out of Wichita, Kansas. The ultimate dream event for every child, or child at heart.

These unique I Heart Cookies were not only the ticket into the event, but they were dangerously delicious. The deep dish, buttery cookies were \$5 each and came in varieties, such as a buttercream sugar cookie, chocolate chip caramel, and snickerdoodle cinnamon roll.

While the transformers, Optimus Prime, and Bumblebee, were only present during select times, the live action Jurassic Park was open throughout the event. Dinosaurs, such as the infamous Tyrannosaurus Rex and spiked Spinosaurus, small mammals, and prehistoric fish, were sculpted alongside Jurassic flora that set the tone of the creatures’ habitat. The dinosaurs were animatronic, like a mechanical puppet, but very realistic in their physical appearance and movements.

An informational storyline was also playing in the background, explaining a bit about the dinosaurs and the Jurassic environment on display. In a bit of fun, the recording joked of the dinosaur’s secret love for cookies, just like you and me..



Thank goodness for fencing and beware signs, otherwise, the velociraptor might have been arrested for stealing a few snickerdoodle cookies!

“Autobots! I am in pursuit’... of a delicious cookie,” said Optimus Prime, as he stopped by O’Reilly’s Auto Parts in Tomah, on July 1st, 2024, as part of the I Heart Cookie experience. For the cost of a cookie, guests were able to meet and greet the iconic Autobot leader. Herald Photo by Jayme Bahl.



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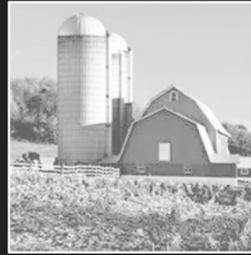
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Limit of 25 words per ad

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MONROE COUNTY
HERALD

Bear Creek News by Pat Christensen



Pat and Leroy Christensen visited Cardell and Laylah Potter, on Monday and Tuesday, in Wisconsin Rapids. Our daughter, Cara Potter, from Rome, picked Leroy and me up on Monday night and we went to see the KIDS FROM WISCONSIN, in Wisconsin Rapids. They were great. If you get a chance to

see them on their tour, don't miss it! Leroy and Pat Christensen spent the 4th of July at the Annual Picnic, at Rod and Leslie Peterson's, near Camp Douglas. Joe and Cara Potter from Rome, Cardell and Laylah Potter and Grandad and Gram Christensen enjoyed dinner

out on Friday night, to help Joe celebrate his birthday. After dinner we all went to Cardell and Laylah's. Pete and Pat Butzen, from Slinger, visited John and Mike Blija, on Tuesday. Bonnie Hedding visited Bill and Deanne Batten, in Shennington, on the 4th. Ken and Sue Olsen and Jim Bernhardt, from Clifton, visited Doris Kelley on Monday, to help her celebrate her birthday. Ken and Sue Olsen played cards at the Senior Center, in Tomah, on Tuesday. Randy and Alicia Waltemath, from Wyeville, visited Bonnie Hedding on Saturday.

Arden and Cheryl Finnigan entertained Ken and Sue Olsen, from Bear Creek, and Cheryl's sister, and Bill and Luann Young and Bill and Cindy Cane, from Midland, Texas, for lunch.. Mike Blija helped with Music in the Park on Wednesday evening, in Tomah. Mike Blija went to Wautoma on Friday, to have supper with Ray Phiel, and Mikes' daughter, Anja, came to visit her Grandpa Ray also. from, Illinois. Bonnie Hedding helped Deanne Batten celebrate her 50th birthday on Saturday, in Shennington. Bill and Luann Young and David and Cindy Cane left today Monday, for their home in Midland, Texas. Mike Blija accompanied Rick Eagan and Aimee to Madison, on Sunday, to visit friends. Randy and Alicia Waltemath, from Wyeville, and Grandson Finn Leis, from Warrens, visited Bonnie Hedding.

Bill and Luann Young and David and Cindy Cane left today Monday, for their home in Midland, Texas. Mike Blija accompanied Rick Eagan and Aimee to Madison, on Sunday, to visit friends. Randy and Alicia Waltemath, from Wyeville, and Grandson Finn Leis, from Warrens, visited Bonnie Hedding.

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MONROE COUNTY LAND TRANSFERS

June 26-July 9, 2024

Town of Adrian
Roshunda A Bassett-Olson To Katie L Olson - 16963 Hemmingford Avenue, Tomah, Wi 54660 - \$269,400

Town of Angelo
Cody J & Destiny J.M. White To Adam J Freybler - 14995 Janus Ave - \$695,000

Town of Byron
Jennifer L. Scott To Jennifer L. And Patrick Scott - 11944 Frost Road - \$150,550

Town of Clifton
Mahlon D. And Clara M. Bortreger To Edward L. And Lovina C. Miller - Town Of Clifton, Monroe County, Wisconsin - \$171,000

Town of Grant
Sandra L. Wood To Kalvin & Kim Clemmerson - 3768 Blueberry Rd, Warrens, Wi 54666 - \$250,800

Town of Jefferson
Jonas C Kauffman To John J. And Lydia E. Kauffman - Sletten Road, Cashton, Wi 54619 - \$58,606

Town of Kendall
William E Zirk, Cindy K Steinbrink & Teresa R Schumann To Shanna R Sarmiento & Christian I Sarmiento Palomares - 404 Spring St Kendall, Wi 54638 - \$138,000

Town of La Grange
Kenneth H. & Phyllis M. Markgraf To Debra Prise - No Address Listed - \$290,600

Town of Leon
Trevor R. And Emma Johnson To Braxton James (Jr.) Henry - 6966 Kate Avenue, Sparta - \$365,000

Town of Lincoln
William D. And Mary Rezin To William D. Rezin And Mary L. Rezin Revocable Trust Dated June 25, 2024 - 4721 Bronco Road - \$344,100

Town of Little Falls
Lynn M Merow Ii & Darlene M Merow To Lone Bluff Farms Dmw, Llc - 4189 County Hwy S & 3951 Benton Road Sparta, Wi - \$533,600

Town of Melvina
Wayn L & Kimberly A Downing To Leann Downing & Jerry Yoder - 110 Marble Avenue - \$100,000

Town of Oakdale
Carol M. Horn Trust Dated November 28, 2007 To Randy Edward Gelden - Island Road, Vacant Land - \$205,000

Town of Ridgeville
William C Helgren To Kent W Rusnak & Jo E Honaker - 20226 Kelton Ave - \$3,000

Town of Sparta
Thomas A. Krajewski To Allen B. Herman - 8494 Idyllview Avenue, Sparta - \$142,000

Town of Tomah
Estate Of Sally L. Waugh To Michael Waugh & Melissa A. Sharp - 26887 Us Highway 12 - \$161,200

Town of Warrens
Cheryl A. And David J. Kamla To Ronald L. And Lori Nelson - None - \$60,000

Town of Wells
Destiny J.M. White To Cody J. White - Vacant Land - \$158,500

Town of Wilton
Joe L & Edna J Bortreger To Lorene J & Ammon B Miller - King Road - \$500

Town of Wilton
Austin R & Sierra A Stoikes To Bradley T Evans - 303 Main St Wilton Wi 54670 - \$195,000

Ronald R Storandt & Judith Y Nichols To Terri M Butler & Robbie A Prestwood - 5629 State Hwy 27, Sparta Wi 54656 - \$308,000

Tyler A Mcneeley & Rose M. Rhoads To Michael Melstrom - 8509 Agate Ave, Sparta Wi 54656 - \$335,000

Robert Storandt To Ronald R Storandt - 5629 State Hwy 27, Sparta Wi 54656 - \$151,600

Verna K Rugg To Verna Rugg Irrevocable Living Trust - 7875 County Hwy B - \$196,700

Village of Melvina
Wayn L & Kimberly A Downing To Leann Downing & Jerry Yoder - 110 Marble Avenue - \$100,000

Town of Oakdale
Carol M. Horn Trust Dated November 28, 2007 To Randy Edward Gelden - Island Road, Vacant Land - \$205,000

Town of Ridgeville
William C Helgren To Kent W Rusnak & Jo E Honaker - 20226 Kelton Ave - \$3,000

City of Sparta
Lepetomane Xviii, Trustee Of The Cmc Heartland Partners Liquidating Trust To Hawkeye Land Ii Co. - Douglas Street, Milwaukee Street, North Depot Street, Walrath Street, Outlot 82, Clifton Street, & Depot Street - \$10

Tina L Feuerbach Revocable Trust, And Under Instrument Dated February 12, 2014, As Amended To John Field - 1625 Clearview Drive - \$296,500

Cindy L & Noland R Thesing To Lucia & James Kelly - 511 N Spring St Sparta Wi 54656 - \$322,500

Benjamin And Lisa Anderson To Robert And Abigail Ring - 1103 North Street, Sparta, Wisconsin 54656 - \$450,000

George J. Glanzer To Big Creek Rentals, Llc - 221 W Montgomery St - \$237,700

Diane M Petersen To Noland R & Cindy L Thesing - 628 E Division St Sparta Wi 54656 - \$225,000

Kenneth & Tamara Barclay To Barclay Building, Llc - 610 Prairie Ave, Sparta Wi 54656 - \$87,200

Jeanette E. Andringa Estate To Bradley W Bohl - 515 N Black River Street, Sparta, Wi 54656 - \$224,200

Town of Sparta
Thomas A. Krajewski To Allen B. Herman - 8494 Idyllview Avenue, Sparta - \$142,000

Mary Ann Brigson To John Brigson - 18931 Ibsen Road - \$200,000

Vicki L Endres To Kari Thompson & Ivan Robinson - Land Off Iceberg Rd Sparta

Wi 54656 - \$30,000
John P. Stiehl To Stiehl View Estates Llc - 14081, 14023, 14010, 14002 Gemini Road, Sparta, Wi 54656 - \$1,201,800

Amber Lynn Laura Linenberg To Craig Linenberg - 18643 Ibsen Road - \$285,000
Adam J. Freybler To Joshua J. And Sarah A. Johnson - 7371 Gaslight Ave Sparta Wi 54656 - \$377,000

City of Tomah
Phyllis M. & Kenneth H. Markgraf To Debra Prise - 1515 Bow St. - \$290,600

K & D Rentals, Llc To Kyle Jorgensen - 327 N. Glendale Avenue - \$75,000
Harley J. And Constance E. Nicks To Hiep H. Vo & Trang N. Mai - 1714 Mclean Avenue - \$160,000

Timothy J. And Stacy L. Beltz To John C. And Judith P. Roloson - 1204 N. Superior Avenue - \$139,000

Ronald L. Tralmer To Darlene Tralmer - 1508 Lakeview Drive - \$768,000
Louella A. Broadhead To Jennifer Leis & Cameron J. Griffin - 1603 Lakeview Dr Tomah Wi 54660 - \$245,000

Linda K. Martens To Martens Family Trust - 207 Foster Street, Tomah, Wi 54660 - \$130,200
Dexter And Latoya Taylor To Andrew And Jacklyn Dydasco - 600 Alyssa St - \$253,000

Jonathan T. And Angela S. Faber To Daniel J. And Mary L. Jones - 1310 Grant St. - \$254,500
Darlene F. Tralmer To Mega Storage Rt, Llc - N/A - \$226,700

Vicki Allen-Wedl A/K/A Vicki L. Allen-Wedl To Matthew Gobel - 210 Mclean Ave Tomah Wi 54660 - \$49,700

Town of Tomah
Estate Of Sally L. Waugh To Michael Waugh & Melissa A. Sharp - 26887 Us Highway 12 - \$161,200

Village of Warrens
Cheryl A. And David J. Kamla To Ronald L. And Lori Nelson - None - \$60,000

Town of Wells
Destiny J.M. White To Cody J. White - Vacant Land - \$158,500

Town of Wilton
Joe L & Edna J Bortreger To Lorene J & Ammon B Miller - King Road - \$500

Village of Wilton
Austin R & Sierra A Stoikes To Bradley T Evans - 303 Main St Wilton Wi 54670 - \$195,000

These are real estate transfers filed in Monroe County. By law, some transfers are exempt from transfer fees; these properties are listed without prices.

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Two pieces of equipment were added to Leon Community Center, located at 20638 Jameson Road, in Sparta. The project was a group effort that was spearheaded by Kristin Betts and Jay Opprecht. This is the smaller piece of the two new-to-them equipment sets. Betts was able to find the playground at an auction, for around \$5,000. The funds were provided by both Leon Gatorfest and the Leon community. Herald photo by Jayme Bahl.

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From Lodi auction to Leon proper

Community effort sees construction of playground at Leon Community Center

By JAYME BAHL
 Staff Writer

The grand opening of the Leon Community Center's new playground, at 20638 Jameson Road, Sparta, was held on Sunday, June 30th. Not only did kids get to break in the new-to-them equipment, but there was cotton candy, cookies, all the flavors of snow cones, prizes and more. Through the strong efforts of community and the keen foresight of Gatorfest Committee President, Kristin Betts, fruition of the playful project was a foregone conclusion from the get-go.

The community project

was originally spearheaded by Betts. After spotting a potential deal on used playground equipment at an auction, Betts took quick action and put in an offer, and won the equipment. Betts then handed the baton off to Jay Opprecht, who created time to create a space for the playground's new home. Opprecht found himself standing at the forefront of a volunteer crew, who were ready and eager to reinstall the equipment, at the Leon Community Center.

At the grand opening, Betts shared her appreciation towards the overwhelming community support in funding and building a new playground. She stated, "Thank you to everybody involved. This is the best thing we can have for our community right now, with all our kids."

One of the reasons the

additional playground equipment was necessary at the community center is the considerable number of children in the community. "When we do have Gatorfest here, the playground is crawling, and there is just not enough room for them," Bobbi Paulson, committee member and leader of the Leon Livewire 4-H, said. "Our 4-H club alone has 76 kids, and we have a meeting here monthly, and events all the time." And for inquiring minds, Gatorfest will be held on August 23rd and 24th this year, 2024.

A Yearlong Project

Paulson explained to the Herald more on the backstory and the deal Betts was able to get, for just under \$5,000. "We did some research, while we were putting it up, and it is a \$70,000 piece of equipment, so we got a really good deal," Paulson said.

Last fall, 2023, the

equipment was removed from a property in Lodi, Wisconsin, and then transferred to Leon. "It was all set in the park," Paulson said. "We had to pull all the posts out of the ground, that was all cemented in."

When the equipment finally reached Leon, the cement was removed by a local contractor. It sat at the center, in anticipation of installation, through the winter.

Then this spring, 2024, Opprecht entered the project, and along with a crew, created a plan for the park. "He helped us map it out and set it up," Paulson said. "They spent a couple of days on the weekend and a weeknight, getting poles set and putting it together. Then we put the shavings in for the ground."

Paulson shared appreciatively, "It was a huge community effort. There were a lot of people who helped put it together. It was not a one single person effort."

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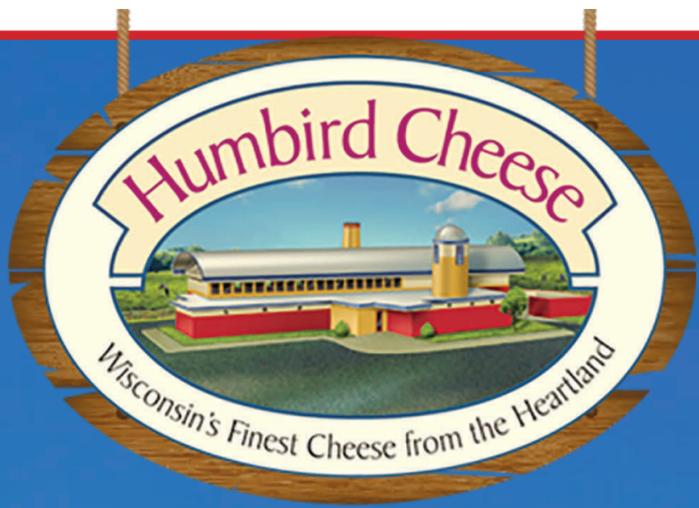
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SPARTA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2024-25 CALENDAR

AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER												
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30									
Aug 27-29, Transition Days August 30, No School							Sept 2, No School Sept 3, First Day of School Sept 27, No School							Oct 31, End of 1st Quarter							Nov 1, No School Nov 22, End of 1st Trimester Nov 27-29, No School												
DECEMBER							JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH												
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29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29								
Dec 23-31, No School							Jan 1, No School Jan 17, Return to School Jan 17, End of 2nd Quarter/Semester 1 Jan 20, No School/Certified Staff Work Day							Feb 17, No School							March 3, End of 2nd Trimester March 21, No School March 26, End of 3rd Quarter												
APRIL							MAY							JUNE																			
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S													
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27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31																				
April 17-21, No School							May 26, No School May 30, Last Day of School/2 Hr. Early Release End of 4th Quarter/Semester 2/3rd Trimester																										

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| Sparta Montessori: 8/21, 12 pm - 4 pm | SHS: 8/21, 6 pm - 8 pm |
| Herrman Elementary: 8/20, 12 pm - 7 pm | SAILS: 8/20, 2 pm - 6 pm |
| Meadowview Middle: 8/21, 9 am - 6:30 pm | |

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Wisconsin Legends and Lore



Gangster Roger "The Terrible" Touhy, original owner of the 1930s gangster hideout, The Wonder Bar, in Madison, Wisconsin. Internet photo.

By JOHN GESSNER
Staff Writer

The Lore

In the 1920s and 1930s, Illinois gangsters used Madison as their gateway into the Wisconsin Northwoods. To facilitate their illegal activities and to provide a safe place from law enforcement, they headed to the Wonder Bar Speakeasy, just south of Madison. In 1929, Illinois bootlegger, Roger "The Terrible" Touhy, and his brother, Eddie (he apparently didn't have a cool gangster moniker), built the Wonder Bar, for just this purpose.

Today, the Wonder Bar is surrounded by several modern buildings, but when it was originally constructed in 1929,

it was surrounded by pastures and farmland. This critical setting allowed guards to spot approaching law enforcement raiders from miles away. The castle-like structure provided roof perches, where lookouts could quickly alert the patrons of an impending raid. Illicit activities could quickly be hidden, before the "cops" arrived. The windowsills had flip-up storage areas, where guns could quickly be hidden.

Those gangsters that preferred not to get caught up in the police dragnet could quickly escape through several tunnels that lead to a nearby lake. Touhy also reinforced the structure, to make it bomb proof, should explosives be used to breach the walls and doors. Patrons of the



The present-day Wonder Bar, located at 232 East Olin Avenue, in Madison, Wisconsin. Herald photo by John Gessner.

1930s enjoyed good food, entertainment, drinking and gambling, to relax and shake off the "burdens" of criminal life and being pursued by law enforcement.

After the gangster era, the bar changed hands through several owners, including Dick Whalen, in the 1970s when the bar became extremely popular to Madison residents and out-of-town visitors. In 1989, Michael O'Brian purchased the business and changed the

name to the MOB Roadhouse, capitalizing on the history of the bar, while playing on the initials of his name.

The Wonder Bar and Restaurant closed its doors in 2004 and currently remains vacant. According to Chad Lewis, author and researcher of Wisconsin Lore - and source for this article, there is consideration of moving the structure to another site, where it may enjoy another run at an energetic atmosphere, where patrons

could once again imbibe the ambience of the gangster era, utilizing the bomb-proof walls to relax, away from the current stressors of society.

The Legend

There is a secret that remains in the walls of the Wonder Bar, literally. There is the story of a gangster who fell on hard times and in desperation, went to Roger Touhy for a loan. Unable to keep up with the high loan interest payments, the gangsters decided it was time to cut their losses and

to "terminate" their debtor. The story goes that his body was stuffed into a wall behind the second-floor fireplace. The fireplace has never been searched and serves only for show, rather than function.

Roger Touhy was convicted of kidnapping and incarcerated in the Illinois Statesville Prison, from 1934 to 1959. Less than a month after he was released from prison, he was gunned down by rival gangsters.



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The Monroe County area is the place to be this Summer!

By KYLE EVANS
Staff Writer

There is no doubt that Monroe County is an extremely busy place on the planet throughout the summer and fall time frames. Later this month, there is the highly anticipated Monroe County Fair, in Tomah, which brings the entire county together for family fun and excitement. Butterfest, Frog Days, Gatorfest, tractor pulls, concerts in the park, kid's pedal pulls, and farmer's markets, all ring with familiarity in the ears of Monroe County residents. It may be said that the soul of who we are, as a county, is on display at all of these event gatherings.

Following is a list of upcoming and past events that will continue to echo through the ages, in the great county of Monroe.

Tomah

The Monroe County Fair is July 24th through July 28th. There are too many events to name, but this is the big one for Monroe County. Familiar and popular events will be on the fairgrounds, like the Antique Tractor Show, Adventure Pavilion, livestock shows and auctions, and many 4-H exhibitors, as well as a large variety of animals - from bunnies to bovines and chickens to Clydesdales. Business After 5 will take place on July 24th, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Downtown Thursday Nights kicked off on July 4th. The weekly concert series, run by the Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce, runs for six weeks. They shut down Superior Avenue, right in the heart of downtown Tomah. There are things to do, for people of all ages. Refreshments and food are available for purchase, from local organizations and businesses. This concert series runs through August 15th, skipping the week of the Monroe County Fair, July 24th. The concerts are Thursday evenings, from 6 - 9 p.m., and are free to the public. There is also a kids zone, to keep your little ones busy.

Tomah also has another concert series, called "Americana Music in the Park," featuring local bands, kids' games, craft booths, and more. This series runs twice a month, on the first and third Friday's, from 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Also, the Tomah Farmers Market runs through October, every Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 6p.m. and Saturday from 6 a.m. to 1p.m., in Gillette Park.

The Tomah Aquatic center has open swim on Monday's, from 12 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday's & Thursday's, from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. On Saturday they are open from Noon - 6 p.m., and Sunday, from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

For more information visit tomahwisconsin.com.

Sparta

In Sparta, the Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce also has a weekly concert series, dubbed Concerts in the Park. Every Wednesday evening, through the week before Labor Day, in Evans-Bosshard Park, you can find great local bands

performing in the bandshell. Food and refreshments are also available, from local organizations and businesses. The concerts start at 7 p.m., every Wednesday.

The Sparta Farmers Market is located at 120 N. Water Street, in Mueller Square, in downtown Sparta. The market runs through the third Saturday in October, on Wednesday's, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday's from 8 a.m. to noon.

The Sparta Aquatic center has its open swim, on weekdays, from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. and weekends from noon to 8 p.m.

Sparta's annual Festival, Butterfest, went on earlier in June, with live music, a car show, softball tournament, carnival, flea market, and more.

Also, ride through Sparta on the Elroy-Sparta State Bike trail and enjoy going through multiple tunnels.

For more information visit bikesparta.com.

Leon

Gatorfest is the last full weekend in August, at the Leon Community Center. The weekend-long festival includes live music, a laundry basket softball tournament, a walk-through parade, and more. The T & K Greeno 5K Run/Walk will be Saturday morning of the festival, starting at the community center. For more information, visit the Gatorfest Facebook page.

Cashton

This fall, the second weekend in September, the Cashton Community Club will have the Cashton Fall Festival, which includes live music, antique tractor pulls, arts and crafts, carnival rides, a fun run, a parade, and more. For more information, visit the Cashton Community Club Facebook page.

Melvina

The Village of Melvina has their annual Frog Day's, which is the first weekend in August. The festival includes a volleyball tournament, softball tournament, frog races, and more. For more information, visit the Frog Days Facebook page.

Norwalk

The Norwalk Lions Club will hold their annual truck and tractor pull at the village park. The event is the second weekend in August. The event offers food, refreshments, duck races, bounce house for kids, a kids pedal pull, and more.

Also, ride through Norwalk on the Elroy-Sparta State Bike trail and enjoy going through multiple tunnels. For more information, visit the Norwalk Lions Club Facebook page.

Wilton

In Wilton, the Village has an annual festival called Wilton Weenie Days which kicks off this weekend.

The Wilton Pool is open every day, weather permitting, from 12:30p.m. - 5p.m and from 5:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Also, ride through Wilton on the Elroy-Sparta State Bike trail and enjoy going through multiple tunnels. For more information, visit villageofwiltonwi.com.

Kendall

In Kendall, Kendall Fest is Labor Day weekend. The weekend long festival includes live music, a parade, and more.

Also, ride through Kendall on the Elroy-Sparta State Bike trail and enjoy going through multiple tunnels. For more information visit the Kendall Fest Facebook page.

Warrens

In Warrens, CranFest is king, and is celebrated the last full weekend in September. The event now draws over 120,000 people, with 1,300 vendor booths set up. The event is a massive and spiderwebs into every nook and cranberry throughout the village. The event features Cranberry Marsh tours, shopping, a parade, food, refreshments, and much more. For more information visit cranfest.com.

Oakdale

In Oakdale, Oakdale Fun Days is this coming weekend. Hosted by the Oakdale Fire Department, events include a 5K & 10K run/walk, a bean bag tournament, softball tournament, live music, and more. For more information, visit the Oakdale Fun Days Facebook page.

Cataract

In Cataract, the second weekend in September, the Cataract Sportsmen's Club hosts an annual celebration, called Field Day's. The events include a trout fishing pond, kids pedal pull, a volleyball tournament, trap shooting, rifle shooting, bingo, and more. For more information, visit the Cataract Sportsmen's Club Facebook page.

Ontario

In Ontario, the village hosted an annual fourth of July Festival. Ontario is also known as "The canoe capital of the Kickapoo." They have multiple canoe rental businesses to take you on a trip, up and down the Kickapoo.

Bangor

In Bangor, Bangor Fun Day's is the second weekend in August, with events such as a parade, softball tournament, live music, a car show, kid's activities, and more. Also, hop on the La Crosse River State Trail and ride to Rockland or La Crosse.

Rockland

In Rockland, the village has an annual Park Progress Days. The event is always the last Saturday in June. There is also a canoe rental business near Rockland, to travel down the La Crosse River. Also, hop on the La Crosse River State Trail and ride to Sparta or Bangor.

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What's Happening Upcoming Area Events

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS POLICY: Groups that earn profits from their event are asked to place a display ad in the MC Herald in order to be included in "Upcoming Area Events." Any non-profit adult organization or church will get a 25% discount on advertising. Half price ads are available for second run. There is no charge for youth groups. Items placed in "Upcoming Area Events" cannot contain prices, and the word "raffle" is prohibited. Regular consumption events must be run as a paid advertisement. We appreciate your cooperation. E-mail to mail@monroecountyherald.com to place your item.

ON THURSDAY, JULY 11 BANGOR GARDEN CLUB will host a garden tour of 7 sites from 3pm to 8pm. Come to Bangor First Responder building at 1702 Commercial Street, Bangor to purchase a ticket and map of featured sites and enjoy some dessert.

The Class of 1963 will meet for lunch Wednesday, July 17th, 12:00 noon at the Family Restaurant.

JOIN US TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH IN TOMAH'S RECREATION PARK FOR OUR ANNUAL BIKE AND SAFETY EXPO Bike registration, bike safety course, drawing for pizzas. Ages 3 up to 15 may participate - parents must be present. Helmets are required to participate. Safety course is open until 5:45. Must be present during the drawing to win.

TOMAH AMERICAN LEGION POST 201 Legion and Auxiliary meeting every 2nd Thursday of every month. Doors OPEN at 6:00pm, meetings start at 7:00pm.

AMERICAN LEGION POST #100 in Sparta has their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the month starting at 7PM. The Auxiliary starts at 6:30 on the third Wednesday of the month, auxiliary only. No meetings June or July 2024. All veterans and families of veterans are welcome to join the legion. Stop by 1116 Angelo Rd for more information.

HI 69ERS! COME TO THE CLASS LUNCHEON the last Thursday of every month. We'll meet at the Leon Country Tavern at noon.

THE SPARTA BACKPACK PROGRAM sends food to Sparta's food challenged kids. All volunteer program. Not affiliated with the school district. Makes checks to: Sparta Backpack Program, 900 E Montgomery St., Sparta, WI, 54656.

VFW POST 2112 monthly membership meeting, first Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Auxiliary meeting second Tuesday at 7:00pm. All meetings at the Post Home, 121 South Husk.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #9438 MIDDLE RIDGE - BANGOR - WEST SALEM monthly meeting, 1st Tuesday each month, 6:00 pm St. Teresa Parish, West Salem.

THE SPARTA GARDEN CLUB meets monthly the 3rd Wednesday of the month at both 1:30pm and 6:00pm at the Sparta Barney Center, 1000 East Montgomery St., featuring a speaker or program. Visitors welcome.

THE TRI-COUNTY CHAPTER #1386 OF NARFE (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF

RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES) MEETS MONTHLY (March thru November) the 3rd Thursday of the month at Perkins Restaurant, 1015 E. McCoy Blvd. (Hwy. 21), Tomah, WI. Lunch is available at 11:30AM—order off the menu. The meeting starts at approximately 11:45AM. All members, their guests, and interested retired federal employees are welcome.

SPARTA FREE LIBRARY hosts **TR-I-N-G-O (BINGO Trivia)** at **VFW Post 2112 (121 S. Rusk)** on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Game starts at 5:30pm. No admission fee. Join the fun as we play four games, each game being a different category.

CLASS OF 64 Breakfast will be the first Monday of the month unless it's a holiday then it will be the second Monday, 9 a.m. at the Family Restaurant.

BANGOR VFW POST 8278 monthly meeting, 3rd Tuesday each month, 7:00 pm Legion clubrooms. New members welcome.

BANGOR AMERICAN LEGION POST 40 & LEGION AUXILIARY monthly meeting, 2nd Tuesday each month, 7:00 pm Legion clubrooms. New members welcome.

LADLES OF LOVE is providing meals Every Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 612 North Water Street, Sparta. Doors open at 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm to people in the community. All are welcome. Join us for a hot meal and conversation.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) is not about dieting or selling a special food plan. We give support and tools to make lifetime changes. Join us Mondays from 3:00-3:45 at the Methodist Church. Call Nila at 608-797-2784 with any questions.

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY EVENINGS. St. Clare Health Mission of Monroe County provides **FREE MEDICAL CARE** for uninsured adults. Registration 5-6:30 p.m. at Mayo Clinic, 310 W. Main St., Sparta. For more

information about services and eligibility, visit www.stclaremonroecounty.org or call 608-366-5343.

SPARTA LIONS CLUB MEETING Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. Sparta VFW starting at 6:30 pm. We are always looking for new members!

SPARTA GROUP #1 (AA) has meetings Monday through Fridays at NOON. There are also meetings seven days a week at 7 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. The meetings are held at the Masonic Valley Lodge on the corner of Montgomery and South Court streets. Use the side entrance. Hotline Numbers: 608-784-7560 OR 1-866-491-8004

SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD PANTRY is in Sparta the third Monday of each month at 2:30p.m. at the summer (May to Oct.) location in Memorial Park (access pickup line from Montgomery St. to Osborne St.); the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00p.m. at the Tomah Fairgrounds (1625 Butts

Ave.); and the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:30a.m. at the Norwalk Village Hall for curb pickup.

EVERY TUESDAY, 7 P.M. Are you struggling with someone else's drinking? **AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP** is there to help. Meetings are held at the Sparta United Methodist Church, 210 N. Court St.

SENIORS AT THE BARNEY CENTER, AGE 55 AND OLDER. We play 500, Euchre, & we will probably have a table of Canasta. 1st Thursday of the month 1:00 p.m. and 3rd Saturday pot luck & cards, 11:30 a.m.

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- 6:00 PM HORSE PULL. \$5 ADMISSION
- 6:00 PM CORN AND BEER BUST
- 6:30-11:30 FLASHBACK
- 5:00 PM FOOD STAND OPENS & CARNIVAL OPENS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31st

- 8:00 AM- Royall Youth Wrestling 5K Run/Walk Registration 6:30-7:50 AM. \$25 Entrance Fee
- 9:00 AM Craft Vendors in the park
- 11:00AM-Food and Beer Stand Opens
- 10:00 AM AMPI Mini Pull - \$5 Admission Registration 9:00AM
- 12:00 PM- Corn Hole Tournament- on the basketball court. Sign-up 10:30-11:30; Bags Fly at NOON. LUCK of the DRAW for PARTNER; \$10 per person entry; 100% PAYBACK-ADDED PRIZE MONEY
- 1:00-5:00 PM THE LAST RIDE. One Man Band
- 2:00 PM BINGO
- 2:00 PM Kids Pedal Pull
- 4:00 PM TRACTOR PULL with SOUTHWEST PULLERS \$5 Admission
- 6:00 PM. BINGO
- 6:50-11:00 PM DJ JOSH LAMB

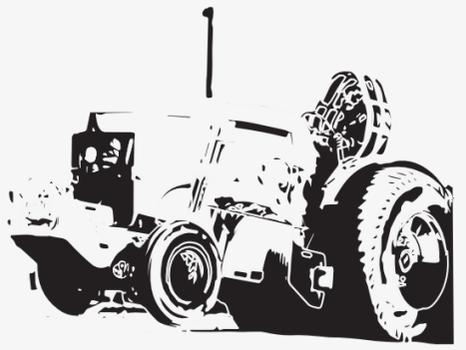
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st

- 8:00-11:00 AM-ROYALL BOOSTER CLUB Pancake Breakfast featuring LESTERS FAMOUS PANCAKES
- 11:00 AM- Food and Beer Stand Opens
- 11:00 AM- Chicken Que at park with BUCKS FAMOUS CHICKEN
- 11:00 AM- Classic Car Parade and Show
- 12:00 PM- MONROE COUNTYS BEST LABOR DAY PARADE Lineup at 10:30 AM
- 2:00-6:00 PM. Tim Castle's COUNTRY LEGENDS TRIBUTE - BEER TENT -
- 3:00 pm. Demolition Derby- \$10 Admission 12 years and over 10:00-1:00- Registration and Inspections Begin- Driver Meeting at 1:30 PM
- 1:30 PM. Kids Sawdust Pile
- 4:00 PM- Kendall Fire Department Raffle
- 7:00-11:00 PM FLASHBACK CARNIVAL ALL WEEKEND LONG

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
August 30th, 31st, September 1st



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSERS



AREA CHURCH NEWS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS)
 Joel Neumann, Pastor
 www.faithwels.com • 715-284-0772
 Facebook: Faith Ev. Lutheran Church
 YouTube: @faithev.lutheranchurch-bla9393
 6774 Acom Avenue
 Worship Service:
 Sunday - 8:00 a.m.

ROCKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 106 E. Main Street, PO Box 44
 Rockland, WI 54653
 Church Phone: 608-486-4539
 Francis Hewuse II, Pastor
 Phone: 608-343-7237
 E-Mail: pastorfran2@yahoo.com
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School -9:30 a.m.
 Confirmation -9:30 a.m.
 Even number months- Worship at Bangor
 Presbyterian Church
 Odd number months - Worship at Rockland United
 Methodist Church
 United Women in Faith - 1st Sunday of the month -
 March-December

IMMANUEL AND SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Norwalk, WI
 Immanuel -403 So uth Main Street
 Salem - County Highway T
 608-823-7523
 Pastor Fran Hewuse II
 10:15 a.m. Worship Service - First Sunday of the
 months May thru October, worship at Salem. All
 other Sundays at Immanuel.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
 Summit Ridge
 16545 Kellogg Avenue
 Norwalk, WI 54648
 608-269-2655
 Father Eric Berns and
 Father Fernando Lara
CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS
 Saturday: 8:00 p.m.
RECONCILIATION
 Saturday: 7:30 p.m. before Mass.

KENDALL EV. FREE CHURCH
 Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.,
 Thursday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.,
 Pastor John Olson.
 One block uphill from Ergo Bank
 104 E. Hall Street
 Kendall, WI 54638

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(The Little Red Church)
 322 N. Water St., Sparta, WI
 Church Office 608-269-4266
 Interim Clergy Rev. Canon Kathy Charles
 Email-sjecsparta@outlook.com
 Sunday- 10:00am In Person and Virtual Service

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA
 612 North Water Street
 Sparta, WI 54656 • 608-269-5081
 www.tlcsparta.org
 Josh Buzbee, Pastor
 Michelle Hyatt, Youth & Family Minister
 God's Love ~ Our Hearts
 God's Work ~ Our Hands
Current worship opportunities:
 July 7: 9 a.m. Worship with Communion.
 Pastor Josh and Parents host Coffee Hour.
 July 14: 9 a.m. Worship.
 Cynthia Lockington hosting Coffee Hour
 July 21: 9 a.m. Worship Heritage Sunday, David
 Meissner Remembrance Letter and NOLA Youth
 Send Off. (communion for homebound & loose
 change offering) Youth host Coffee Hour.
 July 28: 9 a.m. Worship in the Park - Evans
 Bossbard. Potluck Lunch.
ALL ARE WELCOME!
 Our services are also live-streamed
 on our Facebook page and recorded on our
 YouTube channel (Trinity LutheranSparta)

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH WELS
 21693 Cty Hwy A (Ridgeville)
 Tomah, WI 54660
 Pastor Robert Gerke
 (608) 487-1170
 Sunday Worship: 9:30 A.M.
 Bible Study(Th): 10:00 A.M.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 115 W. LaCrosse Street, Tomah, WI
 Pastor Elizabeth Voigt
 608-372-6242
 tomahucc@gmail.com
 Find us on Facebook at UCC Tomah
 No matter who you are, or where you are on life's
 journey, you are welcome to join us for worship.
 We worship in person at 10 am on Sunday and
 6 pm on Wednesday for the Come as You Are
 service.
 We look forward to seeing you!
 Watch for Children's Celebration Sunday
 On the 2nd Sunday of the month resuming in the
 Fall at 10 am!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

CHURCH OF LEON
 "Building the Family of God with a
 Heart for our Community!"
 20752 State Hwy. 27, Sparta, WI 54656
 Rev. Donald A. Ehler, Pastor
 Cell phone: 608-792-0481
 Email: chman1@centurylink.net

SUNDAY
 8:45-9:45 a.m. Discovery Land in the Fellowship
 Hall (Sunday School)
 9:00-10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Family Worship -Everyone is
 welcome-in person or at www.facebook.com
 Weekly CD available, new nursery
 11:00 a.m. Coffee hour-fellowship hall.
 11:00 a.m. Confirmation class (TBA)

WEDNESDAY
 9:00 a.m. Mid-week Bible study
 Holy communion-monthly on the 1st Sunday.

FAITH EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
 "Christ's Love to Us,
 Demonstrated Through Us".
 6644 St Hwy 16, Sparta - 608-269-5469
 Ministry office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
 E-mail: office@spartafaitch.com
 Website: www.spartafaitchfree.com
 Ministry Staff:
 Brian Young - Senior Pastor
 Steven Lucht - Pastor of Youth Ministries

SUNDAY:
 8 and 10:45 a.m. Worship Services. Visit Faith's
 website for livestream options using Facebook and
 YouTube. Nursery (birth-3 yrs.) available during
 both worship services. Children's Church (3 yrs.-2nd
 grade) available during second service.
 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday Discussions for Adults

WEDNESDAY:
 5:30-7 p.m. Kids Kingdom (during school year) for
 students in grades PreK thru 6th. Free meal for Kids
 Kingdom children and their families (5:30-6 p.m.)
 Programming from 6-7 p.m.
 6-7 p.m. Women's Bible study, free nursery (birth to
 PreK) for those attending the study.
 7-9 p.m. Youth Group for students in grades 7-12
 Men's Bible Study from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
 Please go to Faith EFC's website for other events or
 call the ministry office.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
 319 W. Main St., Sparta
 Rectory Phone 608-269-2655
 www.spartacatholic.org
 Fr. Eric Berns and Fr. Fernando Lara
CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS
 Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday: 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 1:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. (Spanish Mass)
RECONCILIATION

Friday: 11:00 a.m. - Noon;
 Saturday: 3:30 p.m.
 For Hispanic Reconciliation, call Father Fernando
 Lara.

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 201 N. Water St., Sparta, WI 54656
 Office: 608-269-5100
 Email: cucc@centurytel.net
 Pastor Priscilla Hemmersbach
 Worship Services: Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
-ALL ARE WELCOME
 We believe that each person is unique and valuable.
 It is the will of God that every person belongs to a
 family of faith where they have a strong sense of
 being valued and loved.
Vision Statement: *United in Christ's love, a just
 world for all.*
Mission Statement: *United in Spirit and inspired
 by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek
 justice for all.*
*To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and
 strength and our neighbor as ourselves.*

CASHTON FOUR POINT LUTHERAN PARISH
 Brush Creek, Fish Creek Ridge,
 North Coon Prairie and
 Portland Lutheran Church
 621 Lewis St., Cashton, WI 54619
 608-654-7798
 Pastor Patrick Ziems
 www.fourpointparish.org
 prest4pt@yahoo.com

July 3: 9:00 - Portland WELCA Meeting
 July 7: 9:15 - Brush Creek Worship /Coffee
 following Worship
 11:00 - Portland Worship
 July 9: 6:30 -North Coon Prairie Council Meeting
 July 11: 9:00 - Quilting at North Coon Prairie
 July 14: 9:15 - Fish Creek Ridge Worship / Coffee
 following Worship
 11:00 - North Coon Prairie Worship
 July 21: 10:00 - Cashton 4-point Joint Worship &
 Potluck - will be held at the Cashton Ball Park, in
 large shelter house.
 July 25: 9:00 - Quilting at North Coon Prairie
 July 27: 9:00 - Gather at North Coon Prairie for Corn
 Boil Preparation.
 July 28: 9:15 - North Coon Prairie Corn Boil 11:00
 until gone.
 11:00 - Fish Creek Ridge Worship

ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
 419 Jefferson Ave., Sparta
 Church: 608-269-4966;
 School: 608-269-6001

email: church@sjsparta.com
 www.sjsparta.com
 Pastor Jonathan Hackbarth
 Pastor Micah Schoeneck
 Michael Peck, principal
 Sunday, July 14, 8:00am & 10:30am -
 Worship Services
 Tuesday, July 16, 9:30am - Women's Bible Study
 Wednesday, July 17, 6:30am -
 Men as Christians at Sparta Family Rest.
 Sunday, July 21, 8:00am & 10:30am -
 Worship Services w/ Communion

BETHANY, IMMANUEL, TRINITY ELCA
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
 Cashton, WI 54619
 (608) 654-5236
 Pastor - Amanda Schultz

BETHANY
 Sun., July 21 - worship at 11:15 a.m.
 IMMANUEL
 Wed., July 17 - worship at 6:30 p.m.
 Wed., July 24 - worship at 6:30 p.m.
 Wed., July 31 - worship at 6:30 p.m.
 TRINITY
 Sun., July 14 - 9 a.m. worship. Youth Gathering
 participants will lead worship. We will bless them
 for their mission trip. Brats-to-go for a free will
 offering after worship.
 July 16-21 - ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans
 Sun., July 21 - 9 a.m. worship
 Sun., July 28 - 9 a.m. worship
 Follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/
 cashtonthreepoint)

For those without computers or internet, you can
 receive sermons and devotions by mail if you call the
 Parish Office at 654-5236 and request to be on the
 "Worship in your Mailbox" mailing list.
 You can also watch our worship service on
 Vernon Communications Local Channel 15. Worship
 will be taped at Trinity Lutheran Church, but it is for
 all our members. You can view it on: Monday 12:30
 a.m. and 3 p.m.; Tuesday 5:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.;
 Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.; Thursday 1 a.m. and 3:30
 p.m.; Friday 6 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Saturday
 11 a.m.; Sunday 1:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.
 Pastor Amanda is working and available for
 prayer, conversation, and support. Contact the
 church office at 608-654-5236.

SPARTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 210 N. Court St., Sparta, WI
 Pastor Lourdes Magalhães
 Office Phone: 608-269-6949
Office Hours: 9 a.m. -3:30 p.m.
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship Service Website:
 www.spartaumc.net

Sunday services livestreamed on Facebook &
 recorded on YouTube and uploaded to our website.
 Friday, July 12:
 8:00 a.m. Men's coffee at Family Restaurant
 8:15 a.m. Women's coffee at Don's Super
 Restaurant
 9:30 a.m., TOPS Mtg., Garden Room
 Sunday, July 14:
 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, Holy Communion will
 be observed
 11:30 a.m. El Buen Pastor Worship in Chapel off
 K Street entrance and Hispanic children's Church in
 small kitchen
 Monday, July 15:
 9:00 a.m. Free Bakery "K" street entrance.
 3:30 p.m., TOPS Mtg., Garden Room
 Tuesday, July 16:
 5-6 p.m. Free Soup Supper
 6 p.m. Servant Leadership Board Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Mtg., Garden Room
 Friday, July 19:
 8:00 a.m. Men's coffee at Family Restaurant
 8:15 a.m. Women's coffee at Don's Super
 Restaurant
 9:30 a.m., TOPS Mtg., Garden Room
 Saturday, July 20
 6:00 p.m. Pizza and a movie, small kitchen and
 chapel. This month's movie is "The Hill." Please
 R.S.V.P. to Toni Burrows before noon on July 20 if
 you plan on attending. She can be reached at 608-
 343-3029. Everyone is welcome to this free event,
 bring a friend!
 Sunday, July 21:
 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
 11:30 a.m. El Buen Pastor Worship in Chapel off
 K Street entrance and Hispanic children's Church in
 small kitchen
 Monday, July 22:
 9:00 a.m. Free Bakery "K" street entrance.
 3:30 p.m., TOPS Mtg., Garden Room
 Tuesday, July 23:
 5-6 p.m. Free Soup Supper
 6 p.m. Wesleyan Circle, potluck, Cyndi's
 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Mtg., Garden Room

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BANGOR
 1612 Pearl Street, Bangor
 Church Phone: 608-486-2670
 Francis Hewuse II, Pastor
 Phone: 608-343-7237
 E-mail: pastorfran2@yahoo.com
 Church email: bangorfirstpreschurch@gmail.com
 Facebook: Bangor First Presbyterian Church
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Even number months - Worship at Bangor First
 Presbyterian Church
 Methodist Church
 Odd number months - Worship at Rockland United
 Methodist Church
ALL ARE WELCOME!

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Missouri Synod
 West Salem WI, 54669
 608-786-3038
 Pastor Peter Adelsen
 765-860-5204
 Church services; Sunday 9am Monday 7pm
 Sunday School 10:30 - adult and children Bible Study
 Wed. 10:30am
 Our Mission
 "Prince of Peace exists to be a disciple making
 community for the Lord Jesus Christ"
 Our Message
 "We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus
 Christ"
 Email: office@wspop.org Website: wspop.org
 Facebook: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church @
 wspoplcm

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 401
 16th Ave N., Bangor, WI 54614
 608-486-2754
 Sunday Services: 8:00 & 10:00 am
 Sunday School: 9:10 am
 Sunday Bible Study: 9:15 am
 Midweek Study: Tues. @ 7:00 pm & Wed. @ 9:00
 am

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
 307 W. Warren St, Tomah, WI
 608 343 7322
 Pastor Dawn Lindberg
 Worship services Sundays at 9:30am
 Wednesdays at 6:30pm
 Follow us on Facebook: Peace Lutheran Church -
 Tomah
 where Sunday worship is live streamed
 Website: peacelutherantomah.org
 e-mail: peacetomah@gmail.com
ALL ARE WELCOME

CATARACT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 5228 Cataract Rd., Cataract, WI 54620
 Pastor Roberta (Robbie) Nowick
 Office 608-488-5311, Cell 608-853-1001
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School during worship.
 Communion is the 1st Sunday of each month.

MELROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 101 Douglas St., Melrose WI 54642
 Pastor Roberta (Robbie) Nowick
 Office 608-488-5311, Cell 608-853-1001
 Worship Service: Sunday Morning 10:30 a.m.
 Communion is the 1st Sunday of each month.

Praise-Worthy



PATRICK FORRE

What is worth applause and praise?
 We praise someone who has earned it.
 We praise generosity.
 Can we praise a giver who gives us grace we don't deserve?
 God's grace is abundant. Everyone can receive it.
 Praise God for that this week in church!

...live for the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:3-14
 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Mark 6:14-29 Psalm 24
 Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for
 Sunday, July 14, 2024
 Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

These weekly Church messages are contributed by the following concerned citizens and businesses, who urge you to attend the Church of your choice!

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 P.O. Box 508, Sparta, WI
 Office: 608-366-1100

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 BUS. (608) 372-2300 801 E MONOWAU ST.
 FAX (608) 372-2070 P.O. BOX 762
 TOLL FREE (800) 245-2118 TOMAH, WI 54660
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IF YOU'RE READING THIS... AND THEY SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL NEWS

TV CHANNEL GUIDE - July 12 thru July 18

FRIDAY EVENING												JULY 12, 2024				
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30						
ABC-WXOW	Jeopardy!	Games 5 & 6	20/20 (N)	S.W.A.T. "Last Call"	Blue Bloods	Two of a Kind	News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live!	(:35) Nightline							
CBS-WKBT	Lingo (N)		S.W.A.T. "Last Call"		News (N)	(:35) Big Bang	News 8 (N)	(:35) Late Show-Colbert	(:35) After Mid.							
FOX-WLAX	WWE Friday Night SmackDown	(N) (Live)			News (N)		(:05) Sheldon	(:35) Mom	(:05) Mom	(:35) Housewife						
NBC-WEAU	Night Court	Night Court	Dateline NBC (N)		News (N)		(:35) Tonight Show		(:35) Meyers							
PBS-WHA	Week (N)	Here Now (N)	Ripper "What Use Our Work"	The Outlaws	Episode Two		POV "Is There Anybody Out There?"	(N)	My Music							
A&E	The First 48 "Think Twice"	The First 48 "The Dark Trail"	The First 48 "Snapshot"		(:05) The First 48		(:05) The First 48		(:05) First 48 "Think Twice"							
AMC	*** Twister (96)	Bill Paxton, Cary Elwes, Helen Hunt.		*** Jumanji	(95) Bonnie Hunt, Kirsten Dunst, Robin Williams.											
APL	Insane Pools	Insane Pools	Insane "Castle By the Sea"	Insane "Hidden Party Zone"	Insane Pools											
COM	(:20) The Office "Finale"	(:55) Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	South Park "South Park"	South Park		*** Beavis & Butt-head Do the...									
DSC	The Real Sharkano (N)	Sharks of the Dead Zone (N)	(:05) Shark Attack Island (N)	(:05) Mster Brmda	The Real Sharkano											
ESPN	(6:30) NBA Summer League Basketball	Basketball Atlanta Hawks vs. Washington Wizards (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)											
FREE	Family Guy Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	The 700 Club	Simpsons	Simpsons								
LIFE	Castle "3XK"	Castle "Almost Famous"	(:05) Castle	(:05) Castle	(:05) Castle		Castle "3XK"									
PARMT	*** Gladiator	Joaquin Phoenix, Connie Nielsen, Russell Crowe.		*** Top Gun	(86) Tom Cruise.											
SYFY	(6:00) *** Geostorm	(17) Gerard Butler.	*** Atomic Blonde	(17) James McAvoy, Charlize Theron. (P)	Reginald "Just Like Heaven"											
TNT	*** Rush Hour 3	(07) Chris Tucker, Jackie Chan.	All Elite Wrestling (N)	*** The Magnificent Seven	(16) Denzel Washington.											
WGN-A	Cuomo (N) (Live)	Dan Abrams Live (N) (Live)	Banfield (N) (Live)	Cuomo	Dan Abrams Live											
WTBS	*** I, Robot	(04) Bridget Moynahan, Will Smith.	*** Enemy of the State	(98) Gene Hackman, Jon Voight, Will Smith.												

SATURDAY EVENING												JULY 13, 2024				
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30						
ABC-WXOW	Press-Luck "Vroom! Vroom!"	Press-Luck "Redemption?"	Press Your Luck	News (N)	(:35) Fast: Home Rescue	(:35) Deadline t										
CBS-WKBT	Tracker	48 Hours "Murder by Clowm"	48 Hours	News 8 (N)	(:35) Weather Gone Viral	(:35) Storm of										
FOX-WLAX	(6:00) Baseball Minnesota Twins at San Francisco Giants (N)	News (N)	Bensinger	I Can See Your Voice	Big Bang											
NBC-WEAU	IndyCar Racing Hy-Vee Homefront 250 (N) (Live)	Weakest Link	News (N)	SNL "Pete Davidson; Ice Spice"												
PBS-WHA	Midsomer Murders	Midsomer Murders	Miss Scarlet "Elysium"	Van der Valk "Only in Amsterdam"	(:35) Bad Move											
A&E	The First 48	The First 48 "The Standoff"	The First 48 "Broad Daylight"	(:05) The First 48	(:05) The First 48											
AMC	*** Titanic	(97) *** Cast Away Helen Hunt, Nick Searcy, Tom Hanks.														
APL	North Woods Law	North Woods Law	North Woods Law	North-Law "Balters Beware"	North Woods Law											
COM	(6:00) *** 21 Jump Street	(12) Jonah Hill. *** 22 Jump Street	(14) Channing Tatum, Peter Stormare, Jonah Hill.	Mike Judge's Mike Judge's												
DSC	Sharktopia (N)	Mothersharker (N)	(:05) Expedition Unknown	(:05) Expedition Unknown	Sharktopia											
ESPN	(6:00) UFC Prelims (N) (Live)	UFC Fight Night: Namajunas vs. Cortez (N) (Live)														
FREE	(6:45) *** Toy Story 4	(19) Tom Hanks.	(:55) *** Lightyear	(22) Voices of Keke Palmer, Chris Evans.	Movie											
LIFE	*** Sister Wife Murder	(24) Matthew Daddario, Dia Nash. (P)	(:05) *** The Disappearance of Cari Farver	(22) *** Sister Wife Murder	(24)											
PARMT	*** My Cousin Vinny	(92) Marisa Tomei, Ralph Macchio, Joe Pesci.	*** The Goonies	(85) Josh Brolin, Sean Astin.												
SYFY	(5:00) *** National Treasure	*** National Treasure: Book of Secrets	(07) Jon Voight, Nicolas Cage. (45) *** Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent													
TNT	All Elite Wrestling: Collision (N)	*** Terminator: Dark Fate	(19) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Linda Hamilton. (45) *** Dune													
WGN-A	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime											
WTBS	*** Kingsman: The Golden Circle	(17) Julianne Moore, Taron Egerton, Colin Firth.	*** I Am Number Four	(11) Alex Pettyfer.												

SUNDAY EVENING												JULY 14, 2024				
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30						
ABC-WXOW	Funniest Home Videos	*** The Sandlot	(93) Mike Vitar, Tom Guiry.	News (N)	(:35) Inside Ed.	(:05) Top 10										
CBS-WKBT	Tulsa King (N) (P)	Tracker "Off the Books"	The Equalizer "Condemned"	News 8 (N)	(:35) Outdoors	(:05) Sports	(:35) Equalizer									
FOX-WLAX	2024 Copa America Final: Teams TBA (N) (Live)	News (N)	(:35) Big Bang	(:05) Sheldon	(:35) Mom	(:05) Mom	(:35) Big Bang									
NBC-WEAU	(6:30) Ninja Qualifiers 3 & 4	America's Got Talent "Auditions 6"		News (N)	(:35) Invest.	(:05) Opry										
PBS-WHA	Prof T "The Conference" (N)	Grantchester (N)	D.I. Ray "Staying on Top" (N)	Antiques Roadshow	Austin "Jackson Browne"											
A&E	Biography: WWE Legends "The Miz" (N)	WWE's Most Wanted (N)	(:05) Biography: WWE Legends "Stone Cold Steve Austin"													
AMC	(5:30) *** Armageddon	(98) Bruce Willis.	Orphan Black: Echoes (N)	*** Armageddon	(98) Billy Bob Thornton, Bruce Willis.											
APL	Alien Sharks: Ghosts	Great White North	Belly of the	Deadliest Bite	Alien Sharks: Ghosts											
COM	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	The Office "South Park"											
DSC	Naked and Afraid "Knives Out on Day One" (N) (SP)	In the Eye (N) (P)	Afraid "Category 5 Survival"	Naked and Afraid												
ESPN	(6:00) 2024 MLB Draft (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)													
FREE	(6:05) *** The Incredibles	(04) (:45) *** Incredibles 2	(18) Voices of Holly Hunter, Sarah Vowell, Craig T. Nelson.	Movie												
LIFE	*** Lies and Ex Wives: Secrets on Maple Street	(24) (P) (:05) *** Sister Wife Murder	(24) Dia Nash.	*** Lies and Ex Wives: Secrets o...												
PARMT	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue "CS: Los Cocos"	Bar Rescue												
SYFY	*** Jaws	(75) Robert Shaw, Richard Dreyfuss, Roy Scheider. (:55) *** Jaws 2	(78) Lorraine Gary, Murray Hamilton, Roy Scheider.													
TNT	(6:30) *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2	(17) The Lazarus Project	(:05) The Lazarus Project	(:15) *** Day After Tomorrow												
WGN-A	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live)	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime	NewsNation Prime											
WTBS	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	Imp. Jokers Inside Jokes	*** The Longest Yard										

MONDAY EVENING												JULY 15, 2024				
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30						
ABC-WXOW	The Bachelorette (N)	Rep.-Convention (N) (Live)	News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	(:35) Nightline											
CBS-WKBT	Neighbor Neighbor	NCIS "Leave No Trace"	Republican Con (N) (Live)	News 8 (N)	(:35) Late Show-Colbert (N)	(:35) After Mid.										
FOX-WLAX	Name That Tune (N)	The 1% Club (N)	News (N)	(:35) Big Bang	(:05) Sheldon	(:35) Mom	(:05) Mom	(:35) Housewife								
NBC-WEAU	Ninja Warrior Qualifiers 8 (N)	Passwor	The Wall "Kavi and Radhika"	News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show (N)	(:35) Meyers										
PBS-WHA	PBS News Special: Republican National Convention "Night 1" (N) (Live)	Grantchester (N)	Independent Lens													
A&E	Intervention "Cassandra & Steven" (N)	First 48 "Along Came a Killer"	(:05) First 48 "Deadly Pickup"	(:05) Intervention												
AMC	(6:00) *** National Lampoon's V...	*** Vegas Vacation	(97) Beverly D'Angelo, Chevy Chase.	*** National Lampoon's European Vacation	(85)											
APL	6000 LB Shark	Makozilla	Shark Frenzy	Great White North	6000 LB Shark											
COM	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	Daily Show (35) Mike	South Park South Park											
DSC	Contraband: Seized (N)	Contraband (N) (P)	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized											
ESPN	2024 Home Run Derby (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)											
FREE	(5:30) *** Frozen	(13) *** Frozen II	(19) Voices of Idina Menzel, Kristen Bell.	Movie												
LIFE	Gypsy Rose	Gypsy Rose (N)	(:05) NeNe (N)	(:35) NeNe (N)	(:05) Parents (35) Parents	Gypsy Rose										
PARMT	*** The Italian Job	(03) Charlize Theron, Mark Wahlberg.	*** Four Brothers	(05) Tyrese Gibson, André Benjamin, Mark Wahlberg.												
SYFY	(6:30) *** Jaws 2	(78) Lorraine Gary, Roy Scheider. *** Men in Black	(97) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones.	*** The Shallows	(16)											
TNT	Movie *** The Meg	(19) Li Bingbing, Rainn Wilson. Jason Statham.	Rich & Shameless	*** The Dark Knight Rises												
WGN-A	Cuomo (N) (Live)	Dan Abrams Live (N) (Live)	Banfield (N) (Live)	Cuomo	Dan Abrams Live											
WTBS	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	American American	American American	American American	American American	American American	American American	American American						

TUESDAY EVENING												JULY 16, 2024				
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30						
ABC-WXOW	Celebrity Family Feud (N)	Judge "Mistakes Happen" (N)	Rep.-Convention (N) (Live)	News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	(:35) Nightline										
CBS-WKBT	FBI: International	FBI-Wanted "Bonne Terre"	Republican Con (N) (Live)	News 8 (N)	(:35) Late Show-Colbert (N)	(:35) After Mid.										
FOX-WLAX	2024 MLB All-Star Game	National League at American League (N) (Live)	News (N)	(:35) Big Bang	(:05) Sheldon	(:35) Housewife										
NBC-WEAU	America's Got Talent "Auditions 7" (N)	Passwor	News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show (N)	(:35) Meyers											
PBS-WHA	PBS News Special: Republican National Convention "Night 2" (N) (Live)	Help! We Bought a Village	NOVA													
A&E	Neighbor. Neighbor.	Neighbor. (N) Neighbor. (N)	Customer (N)	Customer	(:05) Neighbor. (35) Neighbor. (05) Neighbor.											
AMC	*** My Cousin Vinny	(92) Marisa Tomei, Ralph Macchio, Joe Pesci.	*** Major League II	(94) Tom Berenger, Corbin Bernsen, Charlie Sheen.												
APL	Sharks of the Dead Zone	Great White	Jaws vs. Leviathan	Belly of the	Sharks of the Dead Zone											
COM	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	The Office "The Office"	Daily Show (35) Mike	South Park South Park										

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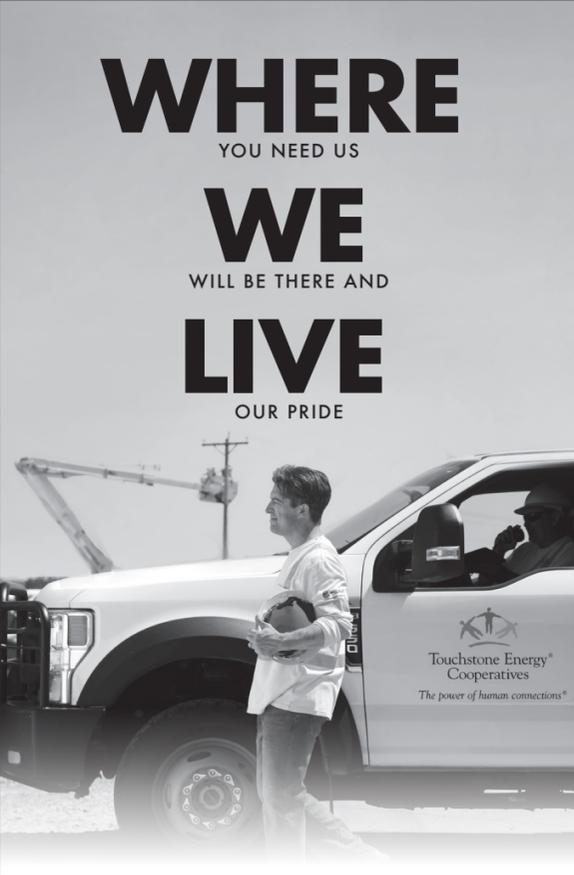
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The Savvy Senior

by Jim Miller

How to hire a caregiver for in-home help

Dear Savvy Senior:

I need to hire a good in-home caregiver to help my elderly father who lives alone. What's the best way to do this?

- Searching Sarah

Dear Sarah,

Finding a good in-home caregiver for an elderly parent is not always easy. How can you find one that's reliable and trustworthy, as well as someone your parent likes and is comfortable with? Here are some tips that can help.

Know His Needs

Before you start the task of looking for an in-home caregiver, your first step is to determine the level of care your dad needs. For example, if he only needs

help with daily living tasks, like shopping, cooking, doing laundry, bathing or dressing, a "homemaker" or "personal care aide" will do. But if he needs health care services, there are "home health aides" that may do all the things a homemaker does, plus they also have training in administering medications, changing wound dressings and other medically related duties. Home health aides often work under a nurse's supervision.

Once you settle on a level of care, you then need to decide how many hours of assistance he'll need. For example, does your dad need someone to come in just a few mornings a week to cook, clean, run errands or perhaps help him

with a bath? Or does he need more continuous care that requires daily visits?

After you determine his needs, there are two ways in which you can go about hiring someone. Either through an agency, or you can hire someone directly on your own.

Hiring Through an Agency

Hiring a personal care or home health aide through an agency is the safest and easiest option, but it's more expensive. Costs typically run anywhere between \$15 and \$30 an hour, depending on where you live and the qualification of the aide.

How it works is you pay the agency, and they handle everything, including an

assessment of your parent's needs, assigning appropriately trained and pre-screened staff to care for them, and finding a fill-in on days her aide cannot come.

Some of the drawbacks, however, are that you may not have much input into the selection of the caregiver, and the caregivers may change or alternate, which can cause a disruption.

To find a home care agency in your dad's area, use search engines like Google or Bing and type in "home health care" or "non-medical home care" followed by the city and state your dad lives in. You can also use Medicare's search tool, at Medicare.gov/care-compare - click on "home health services." Most home health agencies offer some form of non-medical home

care services too.

You also need to know that original Medicare does not cover in-home caregiving services unless your dad is receiving doctor ordered skilled nursing or therapy services at home too. But, if your dad is in a certain Medicare Advantage plan, or is low-income and qualifies for Medicaid, he may be eligible for some coverage.

Hiring Directly

Hiring an independent caregiver on your own is the other option, and it's less expensive. Costs typically range between \$12 and \$25 per hour. Hiring directly also gives you more control over who you hire, so you can choose someone who you feel is right for your dad.

But be aware that if you do hire someone on your own,

you become the employer, so there's no agency support to fall back on if a problem occurs or if the aide doesn't show up. You're also responsible for paying payroll taxes and any worker-related injuries that may happen. If you choose this option, make sure you check the aide's references thoroughly and do a criminal background check at companies, like eNannySource.com.

To find someone, use an elder-care matching service, like Care.com or CareLinx.com, which both provide basic background checks.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC *Today* show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



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MONROE COUNTY FAIR



Contributed photo

Celebrating 151 years of fun

By KYLE EVANS
Staff writer

Through their 151 years of providing generational memories, the Monroe County Fair has had many changes, developing new paths forward, to stay current with the times.

Each new year brings new opportunities, and the Monroe County Agricultural Society continues setting the bar higher and higher, with each passing year. One thing remains certain, and that is that the Monroe County Fair stands as the King of events within the county.

The Monroe County Agricultural Society came about, at the suggestion of Robert E. Gillett, the founder of Tomah. The first fair was held in 1858 in Sparta.

The organization was succeeded by the Sparta Driving and Agricultural Association and then by the Sparta Fair Association. Interest in the fair waned, but was revived several times, over a 70-year period. There were some years no fairs were held at all. The last of the Sparta fairs was held in the 1930s.

Meanwhile, in Tomah, an organization called the Eastern Monroe County Agricultural Society was established, in 1869. The group held its first fair in 1873, and annual fairs have been held here since that year. In 1921, the Tomah fair was advertised as the Monroe County Fair, rather than the Eastern Monroe County Fair.

There is no denying that in Monroe County, the Monroe County Fair takes centerstage, towering over other events that take place in the surrounding areas. The Monroe County Fair has served as the hub for 4-H exhibitors, livestock

WHEN & WHERE

Monroe County Fair
Wed., July 24
– Sun. July 28
Recreation Park
1625 Butts Ave.,
Tomah, WI
monroecountyfairwi.com
(608) 372-2081

shows, community family fun, grandstand events, talent shows, carnival rides and games, and much more, for many years.

This year's celebration marks the 151st anniversary of the event, which has created generations of family and community memories. The Fair has expanded greatly since the start, and now offers food vendors, exhibits, shows, a full carnival, many free events and entertainment.

Event Schedule

The 2024 Monroe County Fair kicks off Wednesday, July 24, with no gate fee, and a 1 p.m. llama show and a swine show at 3 p.m.

There are many other free pieces of entertainment at the fair, including the AgVenture pavilion, which is a petting zoo, with educational information that opens every day at 10 a.m. There are shows going on near the carnival, all weekend long, that are free. As well, all the judging shows are free, plus, there is an antique tractor show, which is also free to take in.

Oscar the Robot will be walking around introducing himself to people. Also strolling the grounds will be Trash Can Circus (clean family fun). The "Kid Buck\$" game show will have three performances every day. John Cassidy magic and balloons also has three performances daily.

For Thursday, there's a



beef show at 9 a.m., a rabbit show at 10 a.m., and a sheep show at 3 p.m. Monroe County Fair Bar Bingo is from noon to 3 p.m. Eight Second Ride will take the stage in the beer garden, starting at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday evening.

Friday's events include a dairy show starting at 9 a.m., a poultry show starting at 10 a.m., and a goat show starting at 5 p.m. The grandstand show is the CC Bull Riding Championship Rodeo, starting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for age 13 & up, ages 6-12 are \$9. Flashback will play their classic rock lineup, starting at 8 p.m., in the beer garden, Friday night.

Saturday is a busy day at the fair, with the Draft Horse Hitch Show behind the fair office, starting at 11 a.m. At 1 p.m. starts the All-Abilities Classic in the lower barn. The junior livestock auction begins at 5 p.m.

Saturday night's entertainment lineup includes Larry the Cable Guy comedy show starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Grandstands. Dan Lepien will close out the night in the beer garden starting at 9 p.m.

Sunday is also a busy day

at the fair, with a dog agility judging event, annual car show, Ag Olympics, draft horse halter show, antique tractor pull, chicken Q, and a kids pedal pull.

Gate Fees, Rides and Wristbands

The gate admission fee, starting on Thursday, is \$5 for ages 13 and over, \$2 for those ages 6 to 12, and free for 5 and under. There are no gate fees on Wednesday and Sunday.

Season passes are available at the fair office through Wednesday, July 24. For ages 13 and up, a season pass is \$12, while for exhibitors and kids ages 6-12 it is \$10.

Wristbands for the carnival are available for \$25. Wristband times are Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to close. From Thursday to Saturday, wristbands can be used between noon and 4 p.m., as well as 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday wristband time is noon to 4:30 p.m.

Rides open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Wednesday. From Thursday through Saturday, the rides are open 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24, 2024 NO GATE FEE

- 1:00 p.m. Llama Show, in Upper Barn
- 3:00 p.m. Swine Show, in Lower Barn
- 5:00 p.m. Dog Obedience, in White Exhibit Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Business After 5, in the tent on the Midway

Thursday, July 25, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Beef Show, in Upper Barn
- 10:00 a.m. Rabbit Show, in Lower Barn
- 12:00 p.m. Bar Bingo, in the Beer Garden
- 3:00 p.m. Sheep Show, in Lower Barn
- 8:30 p.m. LIVE MUSIC

8 Second Ride, country; in the Beer Garden, Sponsored by Casey's Spirit Shop

Friday, July 26, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Dairy Show, in Upper Barn
- 10:00 a.m. Poultry Show, in Lower Barn
- 5:00 p.m. Goat Show, in Lower Barn
- 6:30 p.m. CC BUCKING BULLS Championship Rodeo, in the Grandstands, Sponsored by HC Minerals; Admission: 13 & Up - \$15; ages 6 to 12 - \$9
- 8:00 p.m. LIVE MUSIC

Flashback, classic rock; in the Beer Garden, Sponsored by Casey's Spirit Shop

Saturday, July 27, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Round Robin, in Upper Barn
- 10:30 a.m. Seasoned Professional Showmanship **NEW!** in Upper Barn
- 11:00 a.m. Draft Horse Hitch Show, behind Fair Office, Sponsored by Bank First;
- 1:00 p.m. All-Abilities Classic, in Lower Barn
- 5:00 p.m. Jr. Livestock Auction, Sponsored by Sleepy Hollow
- 7:00 p.m. LARRY THE CABLE GUY in the Grandstands, doors open at 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by State Farm - Jeff Holthaus, GTECH Seamless Gutters, and La Crosse Beverage Tickets can be purchased online
- 9:00 p.m. LIVE MUSIC

Dan Lepien; in the Beer Garden, Sponsored by Casey's Spirit Shop

Sunday, July 28, 2024 NO GATE FEE

- 9:00 a.m. Dog Agility, in Northwest corner of Grounds
- 9:00 a.m. Annual Car Show, Gate #3 off Butts Ave. Sponsored by Bank First
- 10:00 a.m. Draft Horse Halter Show, near horse barn
- 10:30 a.m. AG Olympics, in the Dairy Barn
- 11:00 a.m. Antique/Farm Tractor Pull, Grandstands
- 11:00 a.m. Chicken Q, at the tent by the Midway
- 1:00 p.m. Kids Pedal Pull, located near the AgVenture Pavilion
- 1:00 p.m. Bean Bag Tournament, held in Beer Garden

Call Fair Office for Entry Information



Many furry and feathered friends have been highlights at the Monroe County Fair over the years, helping make incredible memories and even teaching important lessons in kindness, gentleness, animal care, and agriculture. Contributed photo.

The Link Between Fair and Agriculture

Many learning opportunities provided

By JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ MORAN
Contributing Writer

For the last 35 years, Jackie Menn has volunteered her time to the Monroe County Fair, the last 23 of those years sharing her knowledge and love for animals with fair goers.

Menn began her involvement with fairs as a teen who joined 4-H to learn how to train her newly acquired puppy. She discovered that, “the link between fair and agriculture is, and always has been, a very important link. It provides a unique platform to teach about agriculture, too.”

Since her days as a 4-H dairy, dog, rabbit and poultry exhibitor herself, Jackie has always been an avid fair enthusiast, even serving as the Ozaukee County Fairest of the Fair.

While visiting this year’s Monroe County Fair, be sure to stop by to enjoy the special AgVenture Pavilion and its Animal Learning Center.

There, you can learn something about agriculture, play at the custom farm-themed playground, take a shot at earning a prize with the Earn and Learn Scavenger Hunt, enjoy the Farm to Fork Display, and more. For those who love animals and agriculture, and want to get more involved, there are ways to volunteer and donate, as well.

Jackie first helped provide animals, when asked by former ag society member, Michelle Rutlin to provide animals for a new attraction at the Monroe County Fair, in 2001. That first year, Jackie only provided a Jersey calf, rabbits, and a goat. Back then, the animal learning center was housed in a tent, with a setup that was difficult to manage. Then, in 2014, the AgVenture Pavilion, the current permanent structure, was built, largely thanks to financial support from then local grocer Burnstad’s Market, to better facilitate one of the fair’s important links, and the root of the grocery business: agriculture and agricultural learning.

This year at the Animal Learning Center, fair goers can look forward to viewing a Jersey calf, a variety



Jackie Menn is happy to be a part of just one of the many agricultural education links fairgoers will find at the fair. She and her 17 pound Flemish Giant rabbit, Thor, and their other furry and feathered friends, look forward to seeing you there. Find them at the Monroe County Fair AgVenture Pavilion from July 24-28, 2024. Contributed photo.

of rabbits, kittens, perhaps some puppies, a pony, goats, sheep, and hopefully some baby chicks, if the timing is just right. Now under the coordinating efforts of the Monroe County Junior Fairboard, Bonita Hanley and other volunteers are currently working tirelessly to make this the best year yet. Jackie Menn is happy to be a part of just one of the many agricultural education links fairgoers will find at the fair. She and her 17-pound Flemish Giant rabbit, Thor, and their other furry and feathered friends, look forward to seeing you there!

Learn & Earn Scavenger Hunt: A Fun Opportunity to “Learn & Earn”

Another program that volunteers enjoy putting together is the “Learn & Earn Scavenger Hunt.” The idea is to facilitate a way for people to learn about animals and agriculture, and then win a small prize. The Junior Fair Board stated that the Learn & Earn Scavenger Hunt is, “split into grade levels: Pre-K, Kindergarten, & 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 4th & 5th, and adult (or anyone over 5th grade). Anyone and everyone can participate.”

Jackie explained, “You pick up

a Learn & Earn Scavenger Hunt sheet in the AgVenture Pavilion. You might see questions about dairy cows, cats, beef cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, llamas, dogs, cats, rabbits, or poultry. To find the answer, you go to each particular animal’s area to learn more. You can find the answer from the “Farm Facts” posted throughout, or a helpful volunteer. The Monroe County Fair organizers would like to see more participation by fair goers in this exciting and free educational event. If you or your organization would like to donate an agricultural prize to help encourage more learning

Some do’s and don’ts while near any animals at the fair
While it is fun and exciting to be up close to these furry and feathered friends, here are some basic **DO’s** and **DON’T’s** while visiting the Animal Learning Center:

- DO** Ask a handler if you can pet the animals
- DO** Be calm and quiet around the animals
- DO** Remember animals can bite
- DO** Have fun and enjoy the experience
- DO** Take pictures without a flash
- DO** Ask questions
- DON’T** Touch animals without permission from a volunteer or the animal’s owner
- DON’T** Feed the animals
- DON’T** Yell, scream, or make loud noises
- DON’T** Poke animals
- DON’T** Stick fingers in the pens

and participation, please reach out to the fair office. Contact information below.

Getting in on the Behind the Scenes Fun That Makes the Fair Possible

Whether attending the fair, choosing to volunteer, or both, generations have made lasting memories with friends and family each July at the Monroe County Fair, and you can, too. Jackie Menn recounts that, “setting up, unloading animals... it’s

‘LINK’
cont. on pg. 7

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- Free Parking
- Free gate Wed. and Sun.
- Car Show (free to attend)
- Antique Tractor Show
- Strolling Acts
- Nightly Bands
- Midway Shows

See more info at monroecountyfairwi.com

AN EVENING WITH
LARRY
THE CABLE GUY

Git-R-Done!

SATURDAY
JULY 27

**MONROE
COUNTY FAIR**



TICKETS ON SALE NOW
AT MONROECOUNTYFAIRWI.COM

LARRYTHECABLEGUY.COM

All About: Larry The Cable Guy

Larry to perform at the fair on Saturday

Larry the Cable Guy will be the headlining show at the Monroe County Fair this year, starting at 7 p.m. on Saturday night in the Grandstands.

Larry the Cable Guy is a multiplatinum recording artist, Grammy nominee, Billboard award winner and one of the top comedians in the country. He has his own line of merchandise and continues to sell out theatres and arenas across the United States. Larry has created The Git-R-Done Foundation, which was named after Larry's signature catchphrase, and has donated more than 7 million dollars to various charities.

Larry's road to stardom included the Blue Collar Comedy Tour, which grossed more than 15 million dollars. The ensemble cast of comedians included Jeff Foxworthy and Bill Engvall. The tour's success led to Blue Collar Comedy Tour, The Movie, which premiered on Comedy Central in November of 2003 and at the time, was the highest rated movie in the channel's history. The DVD has sold more than 4 million units. The sequel Blue Collar Comedy Tour Rides Again, has sold more than 3 million units. In March of 2006, the Blue Collar boys reunited to shoot Blue Collar Comedy Tour, One For The Road in Washington, DC at the Warner Theater. The movie had its world premiere on Comedy Central June 4, 2006, again receiving some of the highest ratings. The soundtrack was nominated for a 2006 Grammy award.

Larry has won Billboard's 2005 Comedy Artist of the year and Comedy Album of the year and he received the Billboard Top Comedy Tour Award in 2006. He is a bestselling author and his book Git-R-Done, (2005) debuted at #26 on the New York Times bestseller list. Larry was named to Forbes Celebrity 100 list in 2006, 2007, 2011 and 2012.

Larry the Cable Guy

Where: Monroe County Fair

When: Saturday, July 27, 7 p.m., doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Buy tickets online at monroecountyfairwi.com



Scan QR code to buy tickets

Larry's first comedy album release Lord, I Apologize has reached gold status, selling more than 500,000 copies. The CD was #1 on the Billboard Comedy Charts for fifteen weeks in a row. Larry's DVD special Git-R-Done, has sold more than 1 million copies and has been certified platinum. Larry also starred in Blue Collar TV a sketch comedy series for The WB network which premiered on July 29, 2004. 5.4 million people watched the show and it was the second most watched show on television in that time period.

Larry's comedy CD Morning Constitutions was released in 2007 and debuted at #1 on the Billboard Comedy Charts. His previous release, The Right To Bare Arms (Jack Records/Warner Bros. Records) debuted at #1 on the Soundscan Comedy Chart, #1 on the Country Chart, and #7 on the Top 200 Chart. This marked the first time in the history of Soundscan that a comedy album has charted at #1 on the Country Chart. It has been certified gold (500,000 units) by the RIAA. The Right To Bare Arms also received a Grammy nomination. His first Christmas CD, A Very Larry Christmas has also been certified platinum (1,000,000 units).

Larry is the voice of the beloved Mater in the Golden Globe winning animated feature film Cars (2006) and Cars 2 (2011) from Disney/Pixar. Both movies opened number one at the box office and combined have grossed more than 1 billion dollars worldwide. Larry has also starred in Tooth Fairy 2 (2012), Witless Protection (2008), Delta Farce (2007) and his first feature Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector (2006). When Health Inspector was released on DVD in August, 2006 it sold more

than 1 million copies in the first week of release.

Larry co-starred in the Tyler Perry movie A Madea Christmas. He also hosted Only in America with Larry the Cable Guy on History for three seasons. The show premiered in 2011 and was a huge ratings success. In each episode, Larry visited various sites across the country revealing bits of real history while immersing himself in new and different lifestyles, jobs and hobbies that celebrate the American experience. Larry was also the star of the CMT animated show Bounty Hunters, which reunited him with Jeff Foxworthy and Bill Engvall.

In early 2012 Them Idiots Whirled Tour starring Larry, Jeff Foxworthy and Bill Engvall aired on CMT. The show was released on DVD and CD by Warner Bros/Jack Records, debuting at number one on the Billboard Comedy Charts. On July 4, 2009 at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, NE, Larry performed in front of more than 50,000 and taped his hour special Tailgate Party for Comedy Central. The show was a thank you to his fans and Nebraska for their longtime support of him. Tickets were sold for only \$4.00 and the show sold out in one weekend. The special aired on January 31, 2010 and the DVD was released on February 2, 2010. The comedy CD of the same name debuted at number 1 on the Billboard Comedy Charts.

On March 15, 2009, The Comedy Central Roast of Larry The Cable Guy aired and the show, which Larry executive produced, is one of the highest rated roasts in Comedy Central history, attracting 4.1 million viewers. Larry has also hosted and executive produced three Christmas specials for both VH1 and CMT. The variety style shows were all huge ratings successes for those networks.

The Git-R-Done Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 2009 by Larry and his wife, Cara, as a focal point for the family's philanthropy. Emphasizing on children's and veteran's causes, The Git-R-Done Foundation has donated to great organizations such as The Arnold Palmer Hospital, Operation Homefront and Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital.

Tickets for the Saturday night show are available at monroecountyfairwi.com.

Hunger Haven: Fair food for the greater good



Every year, half the proceeds for the Hunger Haven food stand at the Monroe County fair go to the same youth mission trip. Here are some of the youth during this year's mission in Pennsylvania. Youth helped out at this apartment structure by washing, scrapping, and re-painting. Contributed photo.

By JAYME BAHL
Staff Writer

Do you know where to get the best burger at the Monroe County fair? Neither did I, until I learned from Annette Eagen. Hint: it is the Hunger Haven Food Stand.

In all fairness, Eagen may be a little biased. She is one of many volunteers from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, located at 310 West Elizabeth Street, in Tomah, who will help run this locally sourced, all-American, fan favorite food stand, at the county fairgrounds. For at least 40 years, Hunger Haven has been conveniently located on Recreation Park. The stand is only active twice a year, during the Monroe County fair and National Tractor Pull.

When the Herald spoke to Eagen, she was in Pennsylvania and participating in a mission, which is what the food stand helps to fund. "Always, half of our proceeds go to our Gloria Dei Youth Missions, which makes this trip possible," Eagen said. "The other half of

the proceeds goes to another mission that we choose."

Hunger Haven offers a variety of tasty treats to beat the hot fair sun, such as classic fair foods, like hamburgers, hot dogs, and fries. "We are probably one of the only vendors that have French fries that is there," Eagen said. "And they say we have the best burgers around."

If you are looking for something sweet, do not fret because the Hunger Haven food stand will still have you covered. "We are kind of famous for our 'church lady' pies and root beer floats," Eagen said.

Not only does the food stand offer delicious food, but seating as well. "We are probably the only food stand that actually has seating," Eagen said. "And when it rains, we have a roof over their heads while they are eating." Eagen added, "All of the people that serve at Hunger Haven are volunteers. We could not do without them."

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2024 Monroe County Fair

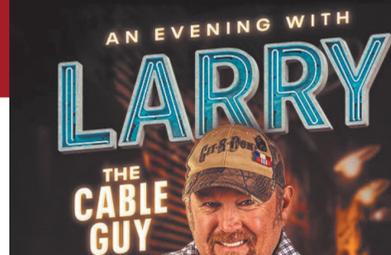


Grandstand Events



CC Bucking Bulls Championship Rodeo

Sponsored by: HC Minerals
Friday July 26 6:30p.m- 9:30p.m
Admission:
Ages 13 & up – \$15.00
Ages 6-12: \$9.00



Git-R-Done!

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JULY 27
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Free Family Midway Shows/Acts

John Cassidy Magic & Balloons
3 Daily Performances

Kid's Buck\$ Game Show
3 Daily Performances

Oscar the Robot
Catch him strolling the fair all weekend

Trash Can Circus
Strolling on the grounds



Antique/Farm Tractor Pull

Sunday, July 28 11a.m- 3:30p.m
Admission price: 13 & Up – \$5.00 • 12 & Under- Free

Beer Garden Bands



Eight Second Ride

Modern Country
"Wisconsin's Hottest Country Dance Band!"
Thursday July 25 8:30p.m-11p.m
Sponsored by Casey's Spirit Shop

Flashback

Classic Rock
"A classic rock band ready to provide
SPARK to the Monroe County Fair!"
Friday July 26 8p.m.-11p.m.
Sponsored by Casey's Spirit Shop



Dan Lepien

Traditional Country Music
"Drawing comparisons to traditional country legends such as George Strait and Daryle Singletary, Dan Lepien delivers with Pure country music and is set to draw national attention." -Ellary Prentice, Sauk Rapids Journalist
Saturday, July 27 9p.m.-12a.m
Sponsored by Casey's Spirit Shop



Carnival Pricing Carnival Ride Times:

Wednesday: 5:00pm-10:00pm
Thursday – Saturday: 11:30am – 10:00pm
Sunday: 11:30am – 4:00pm
Carnival Wristbands:
\$25.00 each session
Wednesday 6pm-10pm
Thursday – Saturday 12-4pm & 6-10pm
Sunday 12-4pm

Gate Admission Fee

\$5 ages 13 & up
\$2 ages 6-12
Free ages 5 & under
\$12 Season pass ages 13 & up
\$10 season pass ages 6-12
Season passes will only be available at the fair office until Wednesday July 24, 2024

Every Day at the Fair

Ag Venture Pavilion opens
daily at 10a.m

Learn & Earn Scavenger Hunt
Antique Tractor Show opens
daily at 10a.m

Variety of Commercial and Food
Vendors on the Grounds
Exhibits on display all week in the
White Exhibit Hall

Other Events Throughout the Weekend

Wednesday July 24

Dog Obedience- White Exhibit Hall 5p.m
Business After 5- Tent on Midway 5p.m Sponsored by Tomah & Sparta Area Chambers of Commerce

Thursday July 25

Bar Bingo- Beer Garden 12p.m

Saturday July 27

Round Robin 9a.m- Upper barn
Draft Horse Hitch- Behind fair office 11a.m- Sponsored by Bank First

Sunday July 28

Car Show- 9a.m- Parking lot by white exhibit building- \$10 entry fee for cars- First 50 cars receive dash plaques
Chicken Q- Tent on Midway 11a.m
Kid's Pedal Pull- Playground 1p.m
Bean Bag Tournament- Beer Garden 1p.m \$20/team

Exhibit Judging

Wednesday July 24

Llama Show 12p.m-2p.m- Upper Barn
Swine Show 3p.m-8p.m- Lower Barn

Thursday July 25

Beef Show 9a.m-1p.m- Upper barn
Rabbit Show 10a.m- 2p.m- Lower barn
Sheep Show 3pm-8pm- Lower barn

Friday July 26

Dairy Show 9am-5pm- Upper barn
Poultry Show 10a.m-2p.m- Lower barn
Goat Show 5p.m-7p.m- Lower barn

Saturday July 27

Season Pro Showmanship 10:30a.m-11:30a.m
All Abilities Classic 1p.m-2p.m- Lower Barn
Jr. Livestock Auction 5p.m-7p.m- Sponsored by Sleepy Hollow

Sunday July 28

Dog Agility 9am-10am
Draft Horse Halter Show 10a.m- 12p.m Sponsored by Bank First
Ag Olympics 10:30a.m



Family farm holds strong bond through Monroe County Fair

Ornes family talks fairs, competitions, and farm

By **BENNY MAILMAN**
Editor

The *Monroe County Herald* returned to the Ornes family farm on Monday, July 8th, to talk with Vanessa and her father Matt on their upcoming return to both the Monroe County Fair and Wisconsin State Fair.

The Monroe County Fair, being held in Tomah, starts on July 24 and goes through July 28. The Wisconsin State Fair is in West Allis, near Milwaukee, and runs from August 1 through August 11.

If the Ornes name sounds familiar to *Herald* readers, it may be because they are also the family with the colorful Easter Sheep that we reported on for the last couple of years.

While Vanessa and Matt relayed that they are busy year-round with their farm and various shows, Vanessa said that those shows are basically warm-up events, where their show animals are exercised, fed well, trained, and developing a rapport with their handlers.

"Our target show is the county fair," Vanessa said. "We try to develop them to where they are reaching their peak shape and performance at the fair in July."

Matt and Vanessa said that the way they attend other shows throughout the United States is preparation for the county and state fairs. To them, the practice is not that dissimilar from world-class athletes competing around the world in preparation for a spot in the Olympics. The analogy is especially fitting, with the Summer Olympics starting on July 26, in France, during the Monroe County Fair, and ending on August 11, which is the last day of the Wisconsin State Fair.

The Ornes family reported that they will be taking two pigs, two steers, twelve sheep, and a goat.

That goat - named Bellamy - has had a fortunate path to get to the fair. Bellamy, as mentioned in a previous story in the *Monroe County Herald* this past April, was spared an early end and a trip to the freezer due to its incredibly hilarious demeanor and friendly disposition. Bellamy's personality helped it create a strong rapport with Vanessa early in its life. That bond was on display during this interview as Ornes would yell out Bellamy's name only to met with an immediate response of a cartoonish bleat.

Decades at the Fair

When asked about the number of years that they had been going to the Monroe County Fair, Vanessa quickly answered, "From birth. I am 18 now, so 18 years."

Matt Ornes quickly confirmed the validity behind his daughter's answer, before stating, "(It's been) 45 years for me. I started showing dairy and rabbits at age eight. It was what we had on the farm, so that is what we showed."

Matt said that for rabbits, he started out showing Flemish Giants, but



Here we see Matt Ornes with Southpaw, a ram that enjoys his king-like status on the Ornes Farm. Vanessa stands to his right, with 6-month-old Bronx, with Bellamy establishing a rapport with the reporter. Herald photo by Benny Mailman.

then switched over to Red Satins. He showed Red Satins because they served a dual purpose for their pelts and meat.

"The first year they put roaster and fryer rabbits in the auction, I made the auction," Matt recalled. "I was offered a price of \$150, for that one rabbit. That was in 1998. He stayed as a pet, and he lived for five years."

Vanessa jumped into the rabbit conversation, saying, "I showed Holland Lops. I wanted a Mini Rex really bad, but I was always told no." "They are too temperamental," was her father's reply.

The Nerves of Competition

The *Herald* pressed Matt and Vanessa on the competition of showmanship and the nervousness of when the judge is walking around, calculating who will be the champion showman. Both Matt and Vanessa agreed that showmanship is a whole other level, one that is a direct testament to one's skills of handling their animal in a show. It provides a window into the dedication an individual has for their craft.

Vanessa responded right away, recalling a show from two years ago.

"It was my first year in Senior Showmanship, and I was going against kids much older than I was ... I was so nervous I felt like I might start crying at any moment. But I made it to the final two! I was even more nervous at that point."

Vanessa ended up winning the competition, which was the final straw on holding back the tears.

"She probably beat the best kid in the county that year," the father said glowingly of his daughter.

"The other kid had won everything else in showmanship, but she (Vanessa) beat her there."

When asked how they measure success, Vanessa and Matt brought up last year's run. "Last year was probably our best quality year," Matt said. "We got all blue ribbons, except one ... it was 11 out of 12."

The name of the non-blue-ribbon getter was Panda, and the analogy drawn was that on the ride home, Panda was like an NFL kicker who lost a hard-fought game, due to a missed field goal. Matt and Vanessa explained that basically, Panda just got old before his time and his body just could not support the muscle he was gaining, as a young sheep.

State Fair

The Wisconsin State Fair starts just a couple of days after the Monroe County Fair and the Ornes family has their eyes on it. When questioned by the *Herald* on how they can show at the State Fair, does it have to be earned or can anyone enter, Vanessa said, "It varies by state. We are lucky to be in a state where you just sign up and you can go. But you can only take so many animals."

Matt iterated that you must be 12-years old to show at the State Fair. Vanessa then remarked that Minnesota is tougher. "In Minnesota you have to earn going to the state fair. It is based on how your animal places among the other animals in your county. Only the top ones can go."

DNA Testing at State Level

The Orneses are already signed up for the Wisconsin State Fair. For state competition, the sheep must undergo DNA testing.

"At state they take DNA samples, of one sheep per class," Matt said. "Last year it was the third-place sheep in each class that had to be tested."

When asked what the judges are looking for with a DNA test, Vanessa replied, "It is to make sure that the tag on the sheep matches the DNA. Someone could take a tag and put it on a better sheep, which is illegal."

The DNA testing is to ensure that everyone showing in Wisconsin abides by the rules and regulations set forth by the state. Every sheep that the Ornes family has shown has their DNA on file with the State of

Wisconsin. The Orneses said that if someone were to get caught cheating in this manner, it would be dealt with discretely, without publicly shaming someone.

The Ambience of the Fair

For the younger Ornes, fair week has come to mean more than merely showing animals.

"Getting a week off from work and just being around people that have the same interest as me. I can walk up to anyone and just ask them how they are doing, and we have great conversations on what we all love to do because of our common interests."

Ornes continued, "Outside of the fair, there are more barriers between people, but at the fair, those barriers are gone."

Vanessa has been showing under the Sparta FFA, that way she can show until the age of 21. In the future, she sees herself helping out the youth who want to follow in her footsteps.

"I do not know that I will become an actual leader, but I will help kids learn how to show if they want. I plan on having my own sheep, so I can help them out that way as well."

A couple of years ago Vanessa also helped out at the All Abilities Classic, at the Monroe County Fair.

"Those kids are there because they have family members that are showing animals and they want to show as well. I think it is a great way to get them out in the ring and have some fun."

Participants in the All Abilities Classic are allowed to show a variety of animals.

"They can show llamas, cows, rabbits ... anything they want," said Vanessa.

This year, the All Abilities Classic is on Saturday, July 27th, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Something New for Seasoned Professionals

There is a new addition to the Monroe County Fair this year, as far as the showmanship goes.

NEW! Seasoned Professional Showman

Where: Monroe County Fair
When: Saturday, July 27, 10:30 a.m., in the upper barn

Who: Anyone over 21 years old can be nominated
Cost: \$10



Scan QR code to nominate a showman

"This year, the Ag Society gave the 'OK' to have an adult showmanship competition," Matt said

"And they are making it a fundraiser," Vanessa added. "So, you pay \$10 to get a parent, or an adult over 21, to show an animal of your choice. So, I nominated him (Matt) to show a sheep."

Vanessa chuckled after she made the statement. "It will be very entertaining."

Vanessa and Matt informed the *Herald* that the competition will take place on Saturday, right after the round-robin, which is an event where the top showman in all age categories, compete for grand champion showman.

"The round-robin is all-around showman," Vanessa started to explain. "The top winners from senior showman, intermediate, and juniors show all animals: sheep, llamas, pig, goats, dairy, and beef. Whoever has the top scores, when added up from each animal, wins. So, you gotta know your stuff if you make it that far."

Vanessa said that after she had won the top showman for sheep two years ago, she immediately embarked on a series of quick tutorials on how to show the other animals.

"When I went in the ring, it was four animals that we had to know how to show; now it is six animals, the ones we said before."

Vanessa and Matt chatted about what animals are the hardest to show and which ones are the easiest.

"Pigs are the easiest, and cows are second easiest," Vanessa and Matt agreed.

"Goat is probably the hardest, at least for me," Vanessa said.

The *Herald* interview ended by going over the newly added fun feature of the Seasoned Professional Showman.

"This is the first time doing it," Matt said. "It is more for a fundraiser, but also entertainment. It gives the kids a chance to critique us and get back at us for hounding them on their techniques. It is a role reversal."

"Yes!" Vanessa chimed in, upon hearing her father's response. "My steer is at another farm, and that guy only likes steers, no other animals. I signed him up to show a goat."

Vanessa laughed again, apparently embracing the excitement of the new event. Matt said that Vanessa had also signed up her older sister to show a sheep.

"I can't wait," Vanessa said.

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Have fun at the Fair!

WE'LL SEE EWE AT THE FAIR!

LINK

continued from page 2

always organized chaos! But once the displays, exhibits, and animals are all set up and in place, it becomes the most fun and social event of the summer."

Jackie and her family have been a part of The Monroe County Fair for many years. Her husband, Harvey, showed at the Monroe County Fair growing up, and each of their children have shown animal and non-animal exhibits at the fair. Some of those children now have children who themselves will be showing animals this year. Jackie shared that the experience gives young people a chance to share something they are passionate and expert on, with the greater community. It fosters teaching, learning, communication skills, including speaking in public.

Jackie went on to explain that, "if a child you know would like to get more involved in working with animals and other life skills, hobbies, and facets of farm life, including tending plants and gardening, arts and crafts, photography, sewing, cooking, adventure projects, small pets, and

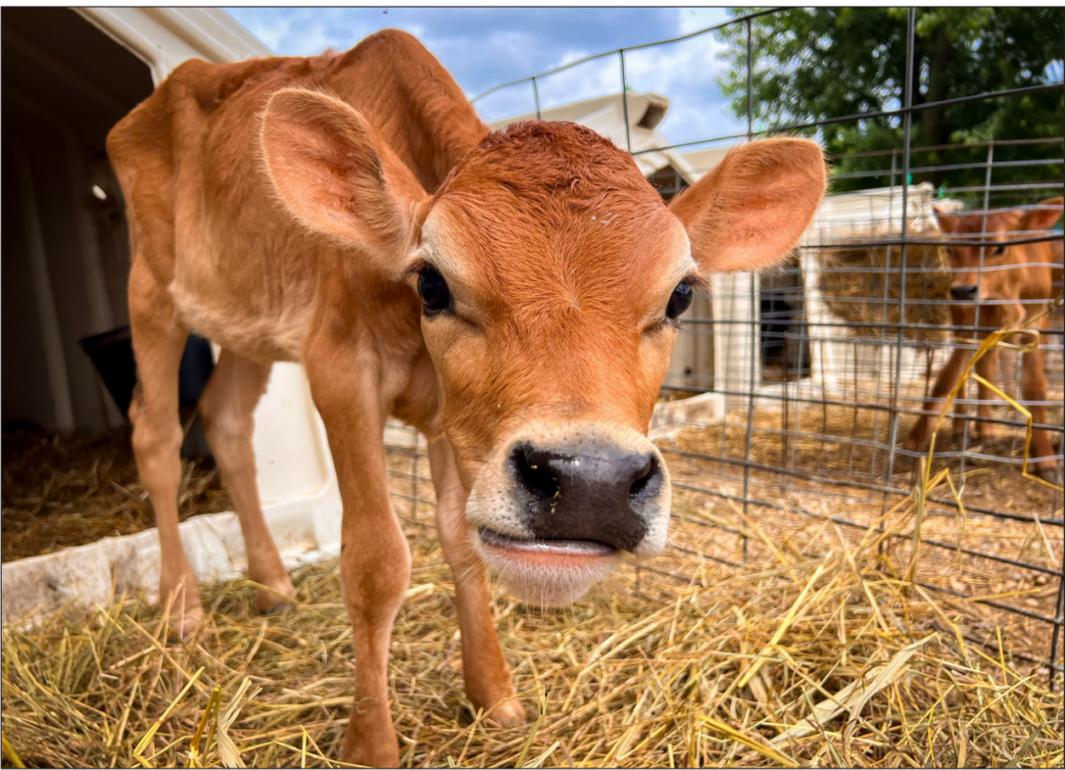
more, look into 4-H and FFA. They are such a big part of the fair. Contact Jason Hornickel, 4-H Educator at the Monroe County Extension Office, or your local high school agriculture teacher, to learn more and sign up."

A Call for Volunteers With Animal Handling Experience

Bonita Hanley, Junior Fair Board member said, "the Junior Fair Board is still looking for volunteers to help work at AgVenture Pavilion and Learn N Earn. We are looking for four volunteers per shift with one of those volunteers being an adult to work 4-hour long shifts." For more information, please contact the Fair Office at (608) 372-2081 or email us at mcjuniorfairboard@gmail.com.

Folks are encouraged to look at the Junior Fair Board's Farm to Fork Display in the Gold Building at any time. In addition, there are exciting animal shows to attend throughout the weekend.

For more information call the Monroe County Fair Office at (608) 372-2081 or call 4-H Educator Jason Hornickel at (608) 269-8722. To learn more about the fair, including the entire Monroe County Fair events line up, on the Web: <https://www.monroecountyfairwi.com/>.



Say, CHEESE! This Jersey calf practices her smile for the upcoming Monroe County Fair, as part of the Animal Learning Center. Contributed photo.

2024 MOCO FAIR

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See you at the fair!

Four Generations of Fair

Wells family continues tradition

By KYLE EVANS
Herald Staff

Simon & Rosie Wells' first date was at the Monroe County Fair. They recently celebrated their 60th anniversary.

On the Western side of Monroe County, the Wells family is known for agriculture far, and wide from Sparta to Cashton. Simon & RoseAnn (Rosie) Wells are the oldest generation, with their children, grandchildren, and now, great-grandchildren also participating in the fair year after year.

"I've been coming to the fairs for 80 years," said 82-year-old Simon.

Simon's mother passed away when Simon was just a baby. Lee R. Wells, Simon's uncle, took Simon to the fair every year. Simon began his association with the fair as an exhibitor and FFA member. He later became a 4-H leader, beef superintendent, Monroe County Ag Society Director and still acts in his current role as secretary for the Ag Society. He was beef superintendent for approximately 50 years and just resigned last year. In 2015, Simon was presented with an award for being inducted into the District 3 Hall of Fame from the Wisconsin Fairs Association.

"I stuck with being involved in the fair for several reasons, the main reason is for the kids because the kids get the biggest benefit out of the fair. Two things I like to see at the fair is fun and education," said Simon.

Simon recalled his younger days as going to all the fairs in the area,



Left to right the four generations at the Monroe County Fair in 2023: Audra, Jayce, Kori, and Ellie Blank, Simon and RoseAnn Wells, and Annette Trescher. Contributed photo.

Vernon County Fair, La Crosse Interstate Fair, Jackson County Fair, Elroy Fair, Juneau County Fair, and more. Simon explained that he would take a truck load of cattle to each of

the fairs to advertise that they had cattle for sale. Simon added, "In a lot of ways, the Monroe County Fair is the best in the area as we still have good dairy show, good livestock

(Beef, Sheep, and Hogs) shows and auctions and even the carcass show where people can view the meat." He added, "The carcass show is done at the awards ceremony at the Leon

Community Center after the fair."

Regarding the dairy show, Simon said, "Paul Dwyer (Dwyer Milk Transport) takes the milk from the cows at the fair over to Nordic Creamery in Westby and they make cheese curds with it and bring them back for sale before the fair is over."

Simon's wife, Rosie, enters the fair every year in the senior division for crafts.

"I enjoy it very much, and I'm thankful to see how many different categories there are to enter now," said Rosie.

The Wells own a 400-acre farm near Leon, and their family helps out as much as they can.

"All my kids are still involved in agriculture in one way shape or form," said Simon.

Mark and James (J.) Wells run Foss Fine Meats in Sparta and help on the Wells Family Farm on Kusota Rd. near Leon, and Annette Trescher has a family farm in Cashton.

The next generation all have participated in the fair as well and all the grandchildren and great-grandchildren help at the Wells family Farm. Mark's children; Collin, Cole, Ryan, and Todd, and J.'s children; Brady, Nathan, Audrey, and Isaac all help out on the farm.

"They all go take care of their animals - goats, sheep, beef and more," said Rosie.

Annette's children Kori Blank and Derek Trescher are still involved. Kori is the agriculture teacher and FFA advisor for the Cashton High School and helps on the Trescher farm. Derek also works on the family farm in Cashton. Kori has two girls and a boy; Jayce, Audra, and Ellie, and Derek has two boys; Spencer and Logan. Some of the great-grandchildren are a little too young to participate as exhibitors, but if there is one thing guaranteed, Simon said, "the whole family will be at the fair."



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